

SMOKE SIGNALS

For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs

Published Monthly Since 1969 • Our 31st Year

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Chasing fire in the sky

The Leonids Meteor Shower: K6ZZ helps the world see

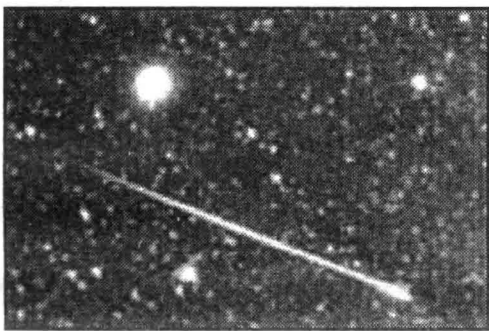
By Bob Selbrede, W9IBQ

Robert W. Selbrede, K6ZZ, son of Robert H. Selbrede, W9IBQ, West Salem, graduated from West Salem High School in 1978. By then he was an Amateur Radio operator and held the Amateur Extra license, the highest rank attainable from the FCC. After leaving High School, Bob entered the U.S. Air Force and furthered his knowledge of electronics by obtaining further training while in the Service. After obtaining the highest security clearance, he was sent to Edwards Air Force Base in Mojave, CA where he served out his four year hitch.

He continued to work at Edwards AFB as a civilian and is still doing so today.

Recently, Bob was involved in a project that involved flying two planes in pursuit of the Leonid meteor shower. The flight was done last November 17 and 18, and covered a flight path from Israel to the Azores. The plane Bob was on was called the "ARIA" and its task was to transmit electronic signals (video, etc.) back to earth. The other airplane was called the "FISTA".

Onboard ARIA was a small video editing studio, where Ed Schilling, Eric James and Michael Parker of NASA/Ames Research Center collected feed footage from the cameras of NHK and the SETI Institute. Using TDRSS and a unique uplink facility in the nose of the ARIA aircraft, Bob Selbrede onboard ARIA and colleagues at NASA/Ames Research Center, White Sands and NASA/Goddard, were sending video of the sky at the time of the 1999 Leonid meteor storm down to the virtual control center at NASA/Ames Research Center from where



the video was broadcast on the live web site (<http://www.leonid.arc.nasa.gov>) and made available on a PacBell fiber. The web site is still accessible as I write this story.

At the control center, in the Ames auditorium, experts commented on the event while the storm unfolded, with the storm projected on a large screen.

ARIA was set up to do live interviews with the researchers on the aircraft and distributed over NASA-TV. Data on the meteor flux were transmitted to Ames in real time and were available on the server just minutes after the measurement was made. Every five minutes an update was sent down, with astonishing accuracy. The onset of the storm was immediately apparent in the data, more than an hour before the peak. Rates followed the predicted curve so well that they could predict the ultimate level some half hour before the peak. There is abundant footage available of the research activities and the unfolding meteor storm. All of the material is in the public domain.

Please turn to page 9

Question Pool Committee eyes February 1 release

Action comes in wake of FCC's Amateur Service restructuring

A revised Amateur Radio question pool that reflects the April 15, 2000, restructuring rules could be out by February 1. Chairman Ray Adams, W4CPA, of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators' Question Pool Committee says the QPC is in "band aid" mode right now and will try to get "something usable into public domain for all three of the new written pools by February 1 or very shortly thereafter."

Adams says that a Technician class syllabus already has been drafted and approved. The various QPC members have been keeping in touch by telephone and e-mail since the FCC announced the restructuring rules December 30.

"We will go back over the newly configured pools, refining them and updating in a methodical manner with the order to be decided by the NCVEC when next in session," Adams said this week. He said the revised question pools will follow the established format.

After April 15, 2000, the FCC will only issue Technician, General, and Amateur Extra class licenses. Novice and Advanced licensees will retain current operating privileges and may renew indefinitely. Applicants

desiring HF privileges will only have to pass a 5 WPM Morse code test. Current Amateur Radio study materials remain valid at least until the new rules become effective in April.

The new licensing regime has four examination elements: Element 1, the 5 WPM Morse code test; Element 2, a 35-question Technician test; Element 3, a 35-question General test, and Element 4, a 50-question Amateur Extra test.

Frequently Asked Questions on restructuring are available at

<<http://www.arrl.org/news/restructuring/faq.html>>

A copy of the entire Report and Order (FCC 99-412) is available at

<<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt98-143ro.pdf>>

or at

<http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/1999/db991230/fcc99412.txt>

The ARRL Letter

2000 Wisconsin QSO Party

Sunday, March 12

12 noon to 7 p.m. CST

(1800Z March 12 - 0100Z March 13)

**Sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club
P.O. Box 1072 • Milwaukee WI 53201**

**Entry form and rules on pages 7 and 8, or at
<http://www.warac.org>**

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Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901 • kebnetter@palacenet.net

Swapfests and Other Social Events

FEBRUARY 22, 2000 Red Cedar Repeater Association Auction, American Legion Post 53 634 Water St., Eau Claire WI Information: Steve Hart, KA9OMC (715) 665-2374.

SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2000 SEWFARS Swapfest, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., setup starts at 6 a.m. Amateur Radio license exams. Information: (414) 835-7035.

SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2000 Wisconsin QSO Party, Info: www.warac.org

SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2000 Hamfest Y2K Jefferson County Fairgrounds Tri-County Amateur Radio Club (920) 563-8740 tricountyarc@globaldialog.com

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2000 NSRCfest a/k/a/LAMARSfest, Lake County Fairgrounds Grayslake, IL 6 a.m. setup, open at 8 a.m. Amateur Radio exams Web: www.nsrc.org Email: jaf@lwt.net Phone: (847) 291-4160

FRIDAY, APRIL 7 and SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2000 Milwaukee AES Superfest 2000

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2000 Rochester Hamfest and Computer Show, Olmsted County Fairgrounds Rochester, MN Doors open at 8 a.m. Info: http://members.aol.com/rarchams (507) 285-6522

SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2000 Madison Swapfest, Mandt Community Center, 4000 Mandt Parkway, Stoughton, WI Doors Open: 8 a.m. Information: (608) 245-8890.
SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2000 Ozaukee Radio Club 22nd Annual Radio and Computer Swapfest 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Circle B Recreation Center Int. of Hwys 60 and Cty. I

Examinations by Badger Examiners, Gary Sharbuno, 5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222. Information: ORC, 1702 Holly Lane, Grafton, WI 53024.

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2000 Lakeshore Hamfest and Computer Swapfest, Manitowoc County Expo ManCoRad Radio Club Info: Dick, N9QFY, (920) 682-9264 P.O. Box 204, Manitowoc WI 54221-0204

MAY 19 - 21, 2000 Dayton Hamvention and ARRL National Convention, Dayton, OH Information: (937) 276-6930 weekdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Web: http://www.hamvention.org Email: info@hamvention.org Advance registration: (937) 276-6930 or tickets@hamvention.org

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2000 W9EAU Hamfest, Eau Claire, WI Information: Jim Staatz, KG9RA, P.O. Box 1867, Eau Claire WI 54702-1867 (715) 838-9108 Info: Jim Staatz, kg9ra@arrrl.net **SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2000** Hamfest 00 South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club American Legion Park, Oak Creek Info: Verne at (414) 762-3235

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 2000 Circus City Swapfest, Sauk County Fairgrounds, Baraboo, WI Circus City Swapfest Info



CLUB MEETINGS

ARROWHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Superior, WI
Meetings: Second Tuesday at WITC Conference Center, 600 N. 21st St., Superior, WI. Time: 7:30 p.m. Board meetings held before regular meetings.

Badger State Smoke Signals

*Amateur Radio
Education and Information*

CHAIRMAN: Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. Telephone (608) 742-3560. kebnetter@palacenet.net

EDITOR: Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, 412½ Ash Street, Baraboo, WI 53913. Telephone (608) 356-4031. smokesigs@baraboo.com

TREASURER: Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901.

EDITORIAL BOARD: Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Don Evenson, K9JYX; Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ.

Subscription Rate

1 year (12 issues) \$13.95

Subscription form is on page 5. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month for the next month's issue. For example, the closing date for the June issue is May 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than

the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter. Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Swapfest ADS should be sent to Jim Romelfanger NO LATER THAN EIGHT WEEKS BEFORE THE EVENT'S DATE.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles or posting articles on radio or telephone bulletin boards from *Badger State Smoke Signals*, providing credit is given to the original author, publication in which the article first appeared, and to *Badger State Smoke Signals*. THIS CREDIT IS MANDATORY, AND NO MATERIAL MAY BE PRINTED OR POSTED UNLESS IT IS GIVEN.

This newspaper is produced by volunteer radio amateurs, and is non-profit. This newspaper is mailed from Portage, WI 53901.

Badger State Smoke Signals is incorporated as a Wisconsin non-stock, non-for-profit organization.

Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

BADGER AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

University of Wisconsin - Madison/W9YT

Meetings: First Mondays at 7:30 p.m. in UW Union South. Information: Don Michalski, W9IXG, (608) 263-4685. Email: w9ixg@arrrl.org. Web: http://www.qsl.net/w9yt.

BADGERLAND AMATEUR TELEVISION SOCIETY (BATS)

Check BATS Web page: http://www.shopstop.net/BATS/

CENTRAL WISCONSIN RADIO AMATEURS

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, WI
Second Wednesday.

EAU CLAIRE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday - 7:30 p.m., Eau Claire Parks & Recreation 1300 First Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54703. All hams and guests welcome. Wide area coverage repeater KB9RRA, 146.910 MHz. Information: Jim Staatz, KG9MV, (715) 838-9108, or kg9mv@ecol.net.

FALLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

Menomonee Falls, WI
Meetings: Last Wednesdays at Bank One building in Germantown. Doors open 7 p.m. Meeting time: 7:30 p.m. Guests are welcome!

FOUR LAKES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Madison, WI
Meetings: First and third Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. Red Cross Building, 4860 Sheboygan Avenue, Room C, downstairs. First building west of Hill Farms State Office Building.

FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Meetings: Third Mondays, 7 p.m., Madison Junior High School, 2020 South Carpenter Avenue, Appleton, WI. Information: Chad at (414) 993-0485.

GREATER MILWAUKEE DX ASSOCIATION

Meetings: Fourth Monday of month, 7:30 p.m. Contact any GMDXA member, or Gary Schwartz, K9GS, (414) 363-4439. Email: garyk9gs@solaria.sol.net. Packet: K9GS@WA9KEC.WI.USA.NOAM Packet cluster NB9C for meeting information.

GREEN BAY MIKE AND KEY CLUB

Meetings: Second Thursdays, Media Services area of J. M. Science Building at St. Norbert College in DePere.

GREEN FOX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Meetings: Third Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Green Lake Town Hall, intersection of County Highways K and N.

KETTLE MORAINES RADIO AMATEURS

Meetings: Second Fridays, 7:30 p.m. Waukesha County Technical College, Campus Science Building, Room 102. Talk-in: 147.39 N9KS repeater

LAKESHORE REPEATER ASSOCIATION

Racine, WI
Meetings: Last Tuesday, January, April, July, October. New meeting location to be announced.

M & M AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Menomonie, MI
General meetings: Monthly, second Thursday, 7 p.m., cafeteria, BAMC basement, Tenth Avenue, Menominee, MI. Amateurs and guests welcome. Repeater: 147.00, + offset. Sunday net: 7 p.m., 147.00 repeater. Address: P.O. Box 1082, Marinette, MI 54143.

MANITOWOC COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS

(ManCoRad)
Second Wednesdays. Directors meeting: 6:30 p.m., City Hall basement, 817 Franklin St., Manitowoc Regular meeting: 7:30 p.m., Associated Bank, lower level, 1000 Franklin St., Manitowoc, WI

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB

Meetings: Last Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Redemption Lutheran Church, 4057 North Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa, WI.

NORTHWOODS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Rhineland, WI
Meetings: Third Tuesdays. Doors open 7 p.m. Meeting 7:30 p.m. South Park School, Rhineland. Talk-in 146.94 (-600). All visitors welcome.

OZAUKEE RADIO CLUB

Ozaukee County area, WI
Meetings: Second Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., Grafton Multipurpose Senior Center.

QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION (QCWA)
Wisconsin Chapter 55
Wisconsin Chapter 55 meets the first Saturday of June and October. For information about Chapter 55, contact Erwin Froelich, W9RZW, Treasurer, W3449 Badger Road, Pine River WI 54965.

QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION (QCWA)
Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162
Meetings: Third Monday in January, March, May, July, September, and November, 7:30 p.m., usually at Meadows Restaurant, Franksville, WI. Social events: Third Sundays in February, April, June, August, and October. Christmas party: Usually second or third Sunday in December.

RACINE MEGACYCLE CLUB
Meetings: Second Mondays, 7:30 p.m., New meeting location to be announced.
RADIO AMATEURS OF WISCONSIN (R.A.W.)
Oshkosh, WI
Meetings: Third Saturday monthly, locations vary. "R.A.W. is a family oriented club. Most of its meetings revolve around family doings and outings. We are always looking for good people to join us. If you are a ham or interested in ham radio, contact Mark Miller, N9WT, (920) 231-1662, or Jeff Opperman, N9OSB, (920) 233-7961."

RED CEDAR REPEATER ASSOCIATION, INC.
Saturday coffee at Hardee's in North Monomomie, corner of Highways 12 and 25 at 9 a.m. Social hour on 4th Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Peppermill Too, 1414 9th Street in the L-Mart Shopping Center in January, March, April, and September through November. Guests welcome!

RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Onalaska, WI
Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Onalaska Community Center.

ROCK RIVER RADIO CLUB
Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Dodge County Administration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, WI. ARES Nets: 146.64 (-600) Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Saturdays, 7277 KHz, 10:30 a.m.

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: Second Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Sheboygan County Red Cross/Boy Scout Building, 2032 Erie Avenue.
SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: First Wednesdays, Legion Post 434, Shepard Ave., Oak Creek, WI. Auctions in March and October.

SPACE PLACE AMATEUR RADIO CENTER
No meetings. Located on U.W.-Madison campus. Guest operators are welcome to operate the U.W. Space Place Amateur Radio Station, N9UW. Information: Don Michalski, W9IXG, President, (608) 263-4685. Email: n9uw@sal.wisc.edu

St. CROIX VALLEY RADIO AMATEURS
Hudson, WI
Meetings: Third Tuesdays, St. Croix County Emergency Government Center, Carmichael Road, Hudson. Short business meeting at 7:30 p.m. followed by program. Talkin: 145.13 MHz. All are welcome!

TAYLOR COUNTY AREA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (TCAARC)
Medford, WI
Meetings: Usually first Thursday, 7 p.m. sharp. Usual location: Emergency Government meeting room/Red Cross Office, basement of Sheriff's Annex to Taylor County Courthouse, 2nd and Ogden Streets, Medford. Talkin: 147.15 (+600) MHz. Amateurs and guests are welcome. ARES Net: Wednesdays, 8:30 p.m., 147.15 (+600) repeater. Information: Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ, P.O. Box 401, Abbotsford, WI 54405. Phone: (715) 223-3996.

TRI-COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: Held at members' homes. Usually monthly on Sunday afternoon. Contact: Glenn Eisenbrandt, (414) 563-6502, or John Satterlee, (414) 5563-6381.

WASHINGTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: Second Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Washington County Courthouse. Net: Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., 146.73 (-600).

WATERTOWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: First Thursdays of month, 7 p.m., Watertown Public Library, 100 South Water Street.

WAUPACA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
"CQ First Tue.": Social gathering and Dutch treat luncheon, King's Table, King, WI, on Highway QQ, just south of Highways 10 and 54, west side of Waupaca.

Gather at 11 to 11:30. Order at noon. Club business transacted.

"CQ Third Fri.": Social gathering and Dutch treat dinner. Semi-formal, OM and XYL, at one of the better supper clubs in the area. Check: Waupaca 147.39 nets at 8 a.m. or 8:50 p.m. for month's meeting location.

WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB
Meetings: Second Tuesdays, 8 p.m., St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 7929 Lincoln Avenue, entrance is at rear of building on alley.

WISCONSIN RAPIDS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: Third Wednesdays, 7 p.m., Room 14 of Wood County Courthouse. Talkin: 146.79 (-600) for entry into the building.

WISCONSIN VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION
Wausau, WI Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. Location varies. Information: 146.64 (-600).

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF REPEATERS
The next quarterly meeting of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters will be Saturday, September 11, 1999, at the Chalet Motel Restaurant, 10401 N. Port Washington Rd., Mequon, north of Milwaukee. Dutch treat lunch at noon. Meeting at 1 p.m. Information: <http://www.gmttech.com/~war>.

YELLOW THUNDER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Baraboo, WI Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Room 18, Baraboo Civic Center at 124 Second Street. Information: <http://members.baraboo.com/sschulze>.

If your club has no listing, or the latest listing is incorrect, please contact K9EN at the address shown on page 2.

The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Wisconsin Area

February 05, 2000	Onalaska, WI
February 05, 2000	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
February 05, 2000	Pewaukee, WI
February 05, 2000	Racine, WI
February 05, 2000	St. Paul, MN
February 10, 2000	Apple Valley, MN
February 12, 2000	Blaine, MN
February 12, 2000	Madison, WI
February 15, 2000	Eden Prairie, MN
February 19, 2000	Cottage Grove, MN
February 19, 2000	Loves Park, IL
February 19, 2000	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
February 19, 2000	Oshkosh, WI (RAW)
February 26, 2000	Bloomington, MN
February 26, 2000	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
February 26, 2000	Tomahawk, WI
March 04, 2000	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
March 04, 2000	Pewaukee, WI
March 04, 2000	Racine, WI
March 04, 2000	St. Paul, MN
March 09, 2000	Apple Valley, MN
March 11, 2000	Blaine, MN
March 11, 2000	Madison, WI
March 18, 2000	Cottage Grove, MN
March 18, 2000	Loves Park, IL
March 18, 2000	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
March 21, 2000	Eden Prairie, MN
March 21, 2000	Sheboygan, WI
March 25, 2000	Appleton, WI
March 25, 2000	Bloomington, MN
March 25, 2000	Menomonee, WI
March 25, 2000	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
March 25, 2000	Tomahawk, WI
April 01, 2000	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
April 01, 2000	Pewaukee, WI
April 01, 2000	Racine, WI
April 01, 2000	St. Paul, MN
April 08, 2000	Blaine, MN
April 08, 2000	Eau Claire, WI
April 08, 2000	Madison, WI
April 13, 2000	Apple Valley, MN
April 15, 2000	Cottage Grove, MN
April 15, 2000	Loves Park, IL
April 15, 2000	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
April 18, 2000	Eden Prairie, MN
April 22, 2000	Bloomington, MN
April 22, 2000	Tomahawk, WI
April 29, 2000	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
May 05, 2000	Onalaska, WI
May 06, 2000	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
May 06, 2000	Pewaukee, WI
May 06, 2000	Racine, WI
May 06, 2000	St. Paul, MN
May 11, 2000	Apple Valley, MN
May 13, 2000	Blaine, MN May 13,

2000	Madison, WI
May 13, 2000	Manitowoc, WI
May 16, 2000	Eden Prairie, MN
May 20, 2000	Cottage Grove, MN
May 20, 2000	Loves Park, IL
May 20, 2000	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
May 20, 2000	Sheboygan, WI
May 27, 2000	Bloomington, MN
May 27, 2000	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
May 27, 2000	Tomahawk, WI
May 27, 2000	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
July 18, 2000	Sheboygan, WI
September 09, 2000	Appleton, WI
September 16, 2000	Onalaska, WI
September 16, 2000	Sheboygan, WI
November 04, 2000	Menomonee, WI
November 04, 2000	Onalaska, WI
November 05, 2000	Kaukauna, WI
November 21, 2000	Sheboygan, WI
January 27, 2001	Appleton, WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	Racine, WI
(except January, July & August)	
Monthly, 1st Sat.	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	St. Paul, MN
Monthly, 2nd Thu.	Apple Valley, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Madison, WI
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Blaine, MN
Monthly, 3rd Tue.	Eden Prairie, MN
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Loves Park, IL
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Cottage Grove, MN
Monthly, 4th Sat.	Sheboygan, MN
Monthly, Last Sat.	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
(except December)	
Monthly, Last Sat.	Tomahawk, WI
(January thru October only)	
Quarterly	Eau Claire, WI
(Second Saturday Jan., Apr., & Oct.)	
plus annual summer hamfest.)	

GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS

Attention exam groups: With recent restructuring and with the fee change which occurred on January 1, will you please look at the information about your group's sessions and verify that all is correct. There is an email link at the bottom of this page. Please send changes and corrections there. Restructuring will bring a lot of examinees to your sessions. It is your responsibility that the information given here is accurate, and your cooperation will be appreciated. Thanks!

Be sure to check with sponsors before going to an examination session. There may be changes and/or errors in the dates or information given. Some examinations require filing an FCC or NVEC Form 605 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date.

Some VE teams permit walk-ins. Check with the sponsor.

Many hamfests and swapfests offer examinations. A hamfest entrance fee should not be charged if you come only to attend the examination.

To register in advance, you must get a copy of the current FCC Form 605, and fill it out completely and correctly. Got your form from the FCC as instructed below, or from the American Radio Relay League, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Please send an SASE if you request a form from the League. FCC Field Offices seldom stock forms. You can also get a form from <http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html> or <ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/Form605>.

A form by FAX is available at (202) 418-0177 (request Form 000605). The FCC Forms Distribution Center will accept orders at (800) 418-3676.

Form 605 has a main form, plus a Schedule D with two parts (for Vanity and Physician's Certifications). Forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$6.45 payable to "ARRL/VEC". Exam fees change annually. See QST, WIAW bulletins, or The ARRL Letter regarding any annual exam fee changes.

(The FCC has announced that the maximum Amateur Radio examination fee reimbursement that Volunteer Examiners and Volunteer Examiner Coordinators can collect during calendar year 2000 is \$6.66. The ARRL/VEC has set its 2000 test fee at \$6.65. Per ARRL-VEC policy, there is no examination charge for those taking only Elements 1A or 2. A \$6.65 fee will be collected from applicants seeking to upgrade using a physician's certification to waive the Morse code examination. -- Bart J. Jahnke, W9JJ in The ARRL Letter)

FCC requires applicants to show their original amateur license or CSCE to the VE team. You must also have a good copy of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 605 and most VE teams need a copy for their records. One good CSCE copy is sufficient. You are also required to have a photo ID, or two other forms of ID. Contact the VE team for details.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only. Proof must be either in the form of a pre-3/21/87 license document or a "Letter of Verification of Technician License Held Prior to 1987" as requested in writing from the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245.

(continued on page 15)

Guest Editorial

Y2K, Restructuring and the Tissue Issue

Joe Phillips, K8QOE
Ohio Section Manager, ARRL

When this year - 2000 - was just four days old, it already had more Amateur Radio news than all of 1999, including not only hams reaffirming our expertise in toilet tissue (some hams will always squeeze the Charmin™) but our long suffering volunteer examiners, who got a late Christmas present. By Wednesday of the New Year, Ohio hams had:

- Spent New Year's Eve right through New Year's Day at hospitals, police stations, county emergency operating centers (EOCs) standing ready to serve in the case of disaster from the Millennium Clock change over.

- Spend the time debating restructuring, as announced by the FCC, including what

effect restructuring has on the "ruination of Ham Radio."

- Began to purchase upgrade books and looking for testing schedules to beat the FCC imposed April 15 deadline to upgrade under the old system.

While some of us were wondering out loud if our licenses were worth more than unused toilet tissue, numerous hams completed a raid on dealers and the ARRL for books to upgrade. Yes, the elimination of all CW tests above 5 WPM has angered Advanced and Extra class amateurs. But the hobby has also been energized - at the start of the New Year.

The ARRL was wondering if its book supply would last four weeks. Four DAYS later, the League was out of books. So are most dealers. That's the late Christmas present our Volunteer Examiners received.

Testing sessions, I predict, will now overflow well past the April 15 deadline. (BSSS' editor's note: See The Test Point every issue, or check the web at:

<<http://www.bsss.org>>

for a list of ham radio exam locations in and around Wisconsin.)

Guess what else helped energize this

dormant hobby? Oh yes, it was Y2K. Oh I know Y2K was a big bust for everyone else, but our mayors, police chiefs, county commissioners, state emergency officials were all reintroduced to the value of a back up communications system. Our county ARES programs will find getting equipment and meeting space from civil authorities easier for a while.

Even at the (Ohio) state level, 70 minutes before the clock changeover, Ohio Governor Bob Taft was at Ohio Emergency Management Headquarters asking John Chapman, WB8INY, about the ham radio effort. Chapman and seven hams were doing all over Ohio - working back up communications systems in anticipation of disaster. That the disaster didn't happen did NOT diminish our role. Now civil authorities, from Governor Taft to Ohio's city mayors, know of our value. And the utilities. And the safety officials. And the hospitals. Good.

One last stab at the "toilet tissue" issue. Complaints about restructuring, however valid, are hardly new. I remember when first getting my ticket in the late 50s. Then supporters of "AM mode" were complaining that "Single Side Band would be the ruin of Ham Radio."

Yes, as we write this after four days, this year has 362 days to go (leap year, remember). And it's already been historic. □

ARRL Board elects new president, officers

Jim D. Haynie, W5JBP, of Dallas, Texas, will be the next president of the ARRL. The ARRL Board of Directors elected Haynie January 21 shortly after convening in Memphis, Tennessee. Haynie, 56, is currently the ARRL West Gulf Division Director. He will succeed Rod Stafford, W6ROD, to become the League's 13th president.

Calling the recently announced FCC restructuring plan "a positive thing," Haynie said his presidency will focus on the future of Amateur Radio, and he suggested amateurs take the opportunity to regroup. "Now that restructuring is behind us, I think it's time for all amateurs -- League members and nonmembers alike -- to pull together to see what we can do to make our hobby a thriving and vibrant hobby."

The President-elect pledged to work with the Board, his fellow officers, and with all amateurs to bring respect to Amateur Radio and to enhance its stature here and abroad. "I think it's time the League started changing," he said. "I think there's a lot we can do." While not offering specific programs at this point, Haynie said he favors even greater promotion of Amateur Radio, especially among youth and in schools. He also said he'd like to see programs to rekindle interest and activity among current licensees.

"The best interest for Amateur Radio as a whole is where the League Board of Directors stand, and it's certainly where I stand," he said.

A ham for 27 years and an ARRL Board member for 12 years, Haynie says Amateur Radio is his "escape" from the world of industry and commerce. An Advanced class licensee, Haynie has been a manufacturer's representative in the metals business for 30 years and runs his own firm in Dallas. He also currently chairs the ARRL Board Audit and Finance Committee.

The Board also elected new vice presidents. Vice President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, was elevated to First Vice President. Current Atlantic Division Director Kay Craigie, WT3P, and Roanoke Division Director John Kanode, N4MM, were picked as Vice Presidents. Current Vice President Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC, was elected Honorary Vice President.

ARRL President Rod Stafford, W6ROD, was elected to succeed past ARRL president Larry Price, W4RA, as International Affairs Vice President. Price now serves as president of the International Amateur Radio Union and did not seek re-election.

Haynie said the League Vice Presidents would become "more like a strike team" during his term. "They're part of the team," he said.

Reelected as League officers were Treasurer James McCobb, WILLU; Chief Financial Officer Barry Shelley, N1VXY; and Secretary and Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ.

Haynie's election means that West Gulf Vice Director Coy Day, N5OK, will succeed Haynie as Director. The changes also mean that Atlantic Division Vice Director Bernie Fuller, N3EFN, and Roanoke Vice Director Dennis Bodson, W4PWF, will become Directors. The vacancies in the Vice Directors' seats will be filled by appointment.

As do other ARRL officers, the League's president serves as an unpaid volunteer. All League officers-elect formally will assume their positions when the Board

AMATEUR AUCTION!

February 22, 2000 • 7 P.M.

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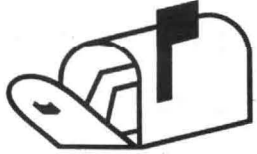
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Proceeds to the Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

**For more information, contact Steve Hart, KA9OMC
E616 810th Avenue, Knapp, WI 54749 • (715) 665-2374**



We've Got Mail!

Hi Jim:

Just wanted to let you know what happened with the ad you put in BSSS for me.

On Christmas day, I got a phone call from a ham I had never met stating he had a meter like the one I was looking for and I could have it at no charge. This really took me by surprise, a Christmas offer from someone I had never met. I said I would try to make arrangements to get it shipped over here and we ended the phone call.

I looked up his call on QRZ and found it was W9NN, Bob Baird, in Plover. After talking to my XYL we decided to drive over and meet Bob and pick up the meter, so I called Bob back and made arrangements to meet him on Monday, the 27th. We got to Bob's home at about 10:30 a.m., met Bob and 2 other hams, K9MIF (Wayne) and his XYL WD9AUC (Betty), real nice people.

We spent about 2 hours visiting with Bob and had a great time as Bob is a very nice and interesting person to talk to. He gave me the meter and some other interesting things, we said our goodbyes, and drove back to Manitowoc.

Thanks and 73.

Bill Daly, WD9ERN

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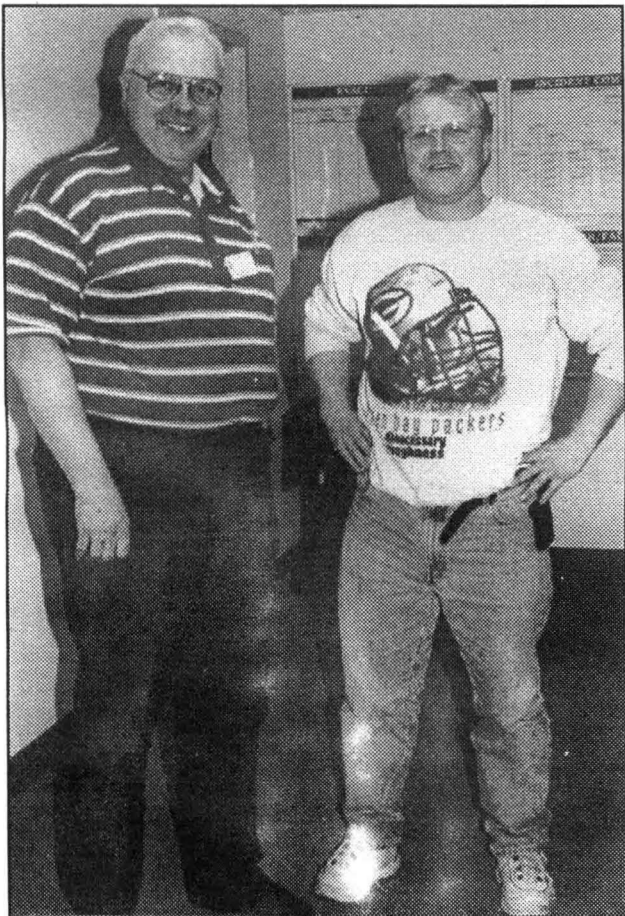
W9NN BOB

HAM OF THE 20TH CENTURY



This is the way Bob Baird, W9NN, (see letter above) looks on the web's home page of the Queen Bee Network.

Y2K eve = EC and EG



It was near midnight January 31, 1999 when this photo was taken in the Emergency Operating Center of the Sauk County Department of Emergency Management. Tho the hour was late, ARRL Sauk County Emergency Coordinator Pete Sweeney, WD9JIB, Reedsburg (left), and Sauk County Emergency Government Director Tim Stieve were wide awake. Circuits were open by Amateur Radio to State DEM in Madison and the Badger Chapter of the American Red Cross. Intra-county communications were on 146.55 simplex.

WVRA to observe Marathon County's 150th birthday with special event station

The Wisconsin Valley Radio Association (WVRA) of Wausau will celebrate Marathon County's birthday and 65 years of service to the Amateur Radio service to hams and the public by WVRA with special event station W 9 M starting at 1500 UTC April 1, and operating until 0300 UTC

April 2.

Frequencies will be 14.250, 21.325, and 28.375. A certificate will be awarded. Please send SASE to: Wisconsin Valley Radio Association, P.O. Box 363, Wausau, WI 54402-0363.

Questions may be directed to n9sdl@arrl.net.

MFJ TUNERS

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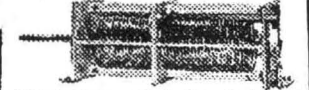
MFJ's AirCore™ roller inductor, new gear-driven turns counter and weighted spinner knob gives you exact inductance control for absolute minimum SWR. You can match dipoles, verticals, inverted vees, random wires, beams, mobile whips,



shortwave -- nearly any antenna. Use coax, random wire or balanced lines.

You get everything you've ever wanted in a high power, full featured antenna tuner -- widest matching range, lighted Cross-

Needle SWR/Wattmeter, massive transmitting variable capacitors, ceramic antenna switch, built-in dummy load, TrueCurrent™ Balun, scratch-proof Lexan front panel -- all in a sleek compact cabinet (10 1/2" W x 4 1/2" H x 15 D in).



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More hams use MFJ tuners than all other tuners in the world!

MFJ-986 Two knob Differential-T™

Two knob tuning (differential capacitor and AirCore™ roller inductor) makes tuning foolproof and easier than ever. Gives minimum SWR at only one setting. Handles 3 KW PEP SSB amplifier input power (1.5 KW output). Gear-driven turns counter, lighted peak/average Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, antenna switch, balun. 1.8 to 30 MHz. 10 1/2" W x 4 1/2" H x 15 in.

MFJ-962D compact Tuner for Amps

A few more dollars steps you up to a KW tuner for an amp later. Handles 1.5 KW PEP SSB amplifier input power (800W output). Ideal for Ameritron's AL-811H! AirCore™ roller inductor, gear-driven turns counter, pk/avg lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, antenna switch, balun, Lexan front, 1.8-30MHz. 10 1/2" W x 4 1/2" H x 10 1/2" D in.

MFJ-969 300W Roller Inductor Tuner

Superb AirCore™ Roller Inductor tuning. Covers 6 Meters thru 160 Meters! 300 Watts PEP SSB. Active true peak reading lighted Cross-Needle SWR Wattmeter, QRM-Free PreTune™, antenna switch, dummy load, 4:1 balun, Lexan front panel. 3 1/2" H x 10 1/2" W x 9 1/2" D in.

MFJ-949E deluxe 300 Watt Tuner

More hams use MFJ-949E than any other antenna tuner in the world! Handles 300 Watts. Full 1.8 to 30 MHz coverage, 48 position Precision48™ inductor, 1000 Volt tuning capacitors, full size peak/average lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, 8 position antenna switch, dummy load, QRM-Free PreTune™, scratch proof Lexan front panel. 3 1/2" H x 10 1/2" W x 7 D in.

MFJ-941E super value Tuner

The most for your money! Handles 300 Watts PEP, covers 1.8-30 MHz, lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, 8 position antenna switch, 4:1 balun, 1000 volt capacitors, Lexan front panel. Sleek 10 1/2" W x 2 1/2" H x 7 D in.

MFJ-945E HF-6 Meter mobile Tuner

Extends your mobile antenna bandwidth so you don't have to stop, go outside and adjust your antenna. Tiny 8x2x6 in. Lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter. Lamp and bypass switches. Covers 1.8-30 MHz and 6 Meters. 300 Watts PEP. MFJ-20, \$495, mobile mount.

MFJ-971 portable/QRP Tuner

Tunes coax, balanced lines, random wire 1.8-30 MHz. Cross-Needle Meter. SWR, 30/300 or 6 Watt QRP ranges. Matches popular MFJ transceivers. Tiny 6x6 1/2" x 2 1/2" inches.

MFJ-901B smallest Versa Tuner

MFJ's smallest (5x2x6 in.) and most affordable wide range 200 Watt PEP Versa tuner. Covers 1.8 to 30 MHz. Great for matching solid state rigs to linear amps.

MFJ-16010 random wire Tuner

Operate all bands anywhere with MFJ's reversible L-network. Turns random wire into powerful transmitting antenna. 1.8-30 MHz. 200 Watts PEP. Tiny 2x3x4 in.

MFJ-906/903 6 Meter Tuners

MFJ-906 has lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, bypass switch. Handles 100 W FM, 200W SSB. MFJ-903, \$49.95, Like MFJ-906, less SWR/Wattmeter, bypass switch.

MFJ-921/924 VHF/UHF Tuners

MFJ-921 covers 2 Meters/220 MHz. MFJ-924 covers 440 MHz. SWR/Wattmeter. 8x2 1/2" x 3 inches. Simple 2-knob tuning for mobile or base.

MFJ-922 144/440 MHz Tuner

Ultra tiny 4x2 1/2" x 1 1/2" inch tuner covers VHF 136-175 MHz and UHF 420-460 MHz. SWR/Wattmeter reads 60/150 Watts.

MFJ-931 artificial RF Ground

Creates artificial RF ground. Also electrically places a far away RF ground directly at your rig by tuning out reactance of connecting wire. Eliminates RF hot spots, RF feedback, TVI/RFI, weak signals caused by poor RF grounding. MFJ-934, \$169.95, Artificial ground/300 Watt Tuner/Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter.

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FEBRUARY 2000

The Computer Corner

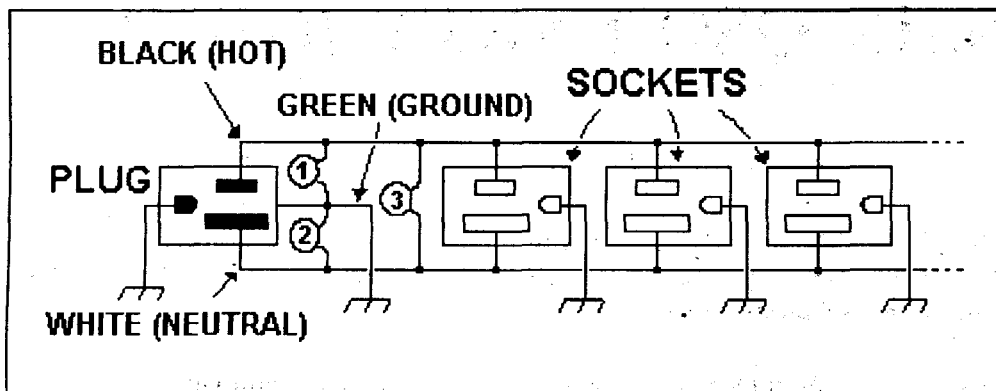
By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR • 105 Martin Drive
Port Washington, WI 53074-9654
(262) 284-9346
skaplan@mcw.edu



No. 75: Surge Protectors (revisited)

Surge protectors are an absolute necessity, as I pointed out in this column back in January 1996. They can save you money, and more important, grief. Electrical storms occur both summer and winter, and they can send high voltage spikes down the power or telephone lines, which can destroy components in your computer. If a spike hits your modem, it can toast it. If it reaches your hard drive, it can toast it. It can even do irreversible damage to the motherboard. All of these horrors are preventable by putting a surge protector between the computer and any possible external electrical path.

The surge protector is a simple device. The basic protector is nothing more than a power strip - a plug on the end of a cord which connects to the AC power coming out of the wall, and a box containing several sockets so that you can plug your computer and other devices into it. The heart of the protection, though, is inside the box as shown here.



There are three Metal Oxide Varistors (MOVs) inside (labeled 1-3 in the diagram). They are made of a zinc oxide mixture, sandwiched between two connecting electrodes and packaged physically just like a disc capacitor. The only thing that gives them away other than markings is that they are usually colored red, blue or black. One connects the black (hot) wire to the green (ground) wire (1 in the diagram). Another connects the white (neutral) wire to the green (2). The third connects the black wire to the white (3).

Under normal conditions, the MOVs do nothing. They act just like a very high value resistor. Therefore, they draw an insignificant amount of power and there is essentially no path for current between the three wires through the MOVs. When a high voltage spike appears on one of the three wires, they go into action. Typically, when the voltage rises to above 130 on one of the wires, the MOV changes to a low resistance and safely shorts out the surge, before it gets to your computer.

You can build one of these units. Indeed, I used to at work before they were commercially available. After having installed a few in my department, electrical storms took out several computers, but not the ones protected by my homebrew devices. You should have seen the lineup of colleagues at my office door wanting one after that! Today, however, it hardly pays to build one yourself, because they can be purchased at local hardware stores for as little as \$5 on sale, nearly the cost of the 3 MOVs if you were to

purchase them separately. This is a wise investment to protect your VCR, television set, or any electronic device that uses the 110-volt AC mains.

Be aware, however, that the MOVs don't last forever. A series of small spikes over the years can cause the device to build a low resistance path between the electrodes. When this resistance goes low enough - poof! The smoke comes out and the household fuse blows. Another possible scenario is that, instead of shorting internally, the device simply opens electrically. There may be no physical evidence that this has happened, but if it has, the MOV will no longer protect your equipment. Therefore, it is a good idea to replace the whole power strip every few years. Record the date you put it in service with a marking pen, and replace it without fail five years later. Open the old case, clip out the MOVs, close the case and obliterate any markings indicating it is a surge protector. Then you can safely use it as a power strip for other purposes.

Well, that is only half the story. Recall that telephone wires are another way that surges can reach your computer. A friend of mine bought a new computer and carefully took my advice to add a surge protector. A few months later, she bought and installed a modem. Within a week, a nearby lightning strike sent a surge down her power and phone lines. The power strip surge protector saved most of her equipment. However, the modem was toast.

The answer? Don't just buy a power line protector. Get the type of surge protector that has two telephone jacks built into the case. One jack takes a cable whose other end plugs into the telephone jack in the wall. The other takes a cable that goes directly into your modem. Now, your modem will be protected, too.

Yet another thought. Be sure to plug your monitor into the surge protector. And the printer. And the "wall-wort" (transformer) that supplies power to your audio board's speakers. Everything that sucks power from the mains and connects directly or by wires to your computer must be plugged into the surge protector. Not enough room? Well, throw a 3-wire cube-tap into the shopping basket at the hardware store. That will raise the "wall-wort" high enough off the power strip so that you can use that other free socket. Happy computing!

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SM has PIC-ture taken



Wisconsin Section Manager Don Michalski, W9IXG, right, visited Baraboo recently to appoint Jim Romel-fanger, K9ZZ, Public Information Coordinator for the ARRL's Wisconsin Section. Having lunch and a doing lot of talking brought forth a lot of stories, some historic, some hysterical. The latter resulted in those laughing faces.

Photo by Jan

RADIO RECYCLERS

Offer to sell:

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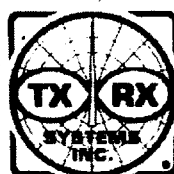
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19" RACK MOUNT

ARRL asks FCC to rethink parts of PRB-1 petition denial

The ARRL wants the FCC to declare that its limited federal preemption policy known as PRB-1 applies to amateurs who live in areas governed by deed restrictions, covenants, CC&Rs, or condominium regulations just as it does to hams regulated solely by local zoning laws. In a Petition for Reconsideration, the League has formally asked the FCC to rethink its November dismissal of a 1996 ARRL Petition for Rule Making. That petition called on the Commission to expand and clarify PRB-1.

In November, the FCC said PRB-1 excludes restrictive covenants in private contracts as "outside the reach of our limited preemption," although it strongly encouraged associations of homeowners and private contracting parties to "follow the principle of reasonable accommodation" with respect to Amateur Radio. But the FCC drew the line at proposing specific rule changes to bring private restrictive covenants under the umbrella of PRB-1.

In asking the FCC to rethink its November Order, the League said the FCC's disclaimer "is no longer a valid premise" and no longer accurately reflects FCC jurisdiction over private land use regulations. Since the advent of PRB-1 in 1985, the ARRL pointed out, the FCC has made it clear that it has Congressional authority to prohibit restrictive covenants that could keep property owners and even renters from installing antennas to receive TV, satellite and similar signals. The League asserts the same principle applies to Amateur Radio, in which the FCC has said it has a "strong federal interest."

The League called on the FCC to clarify that PRB-1 applies to private land use regulations, leaving hams free to negotiate reasonable accommodation provisions with local homeowners' associations just as they do now with governmental land use regulators.

The League also asked the FCC to provide some relief from "prohibitive and excessive fees" that localities might impose on amateurs for permits and fees. The ARRL said that such costs can be "the functional equivalent of a prohibition of amateur communications" and asked the FCC to state that "excessive costs associated with land use approvals fail the 'reasonable accommodation' and 'minimum practicable restriction' tests of PRB-1."

A copy of the ARRL's Petition for Reconsideration is available at

<<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/prb-1/prb1-recon.pdf>>.

The ARRL Letter

Attention Volunteer Examiner Teams

Please check your listing in The Test Point and verify all information. It is in both the printed edition and on the web at <http://www.bsss.org>. If there are additions, changes or corrections, or if your sessions are not listed, please send the corrected information as soon as possible to Jim Romelfanger, Badger State Smoke Signals, 412½ Ash Street, Baraboo, WI 53913-2501. If you check the web address, there is an email link at the bottom of that page; send corrections via that link. Your cooperation is needed and appreciated.

Here it comes.. the 2000 Wisconsin QSO Party

The contest of contests, the party of parties.. and certainly the Wisconsin operating event of the year is on its way.

The 2000 Wisconsin QSO Party, sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club, will be Sunday, March 12, Central Standard Time, from noon to 7 p.m. That's

1800 UTC March 12 to 0100 UTC March 13.

This contest, a 7-hour sprint, has earned and retains a reputation as the best QSO party in the country. One listen during the event tells the story.

Entrants may use the form below, write

to WARAC, P.O. Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201 for the form, or go to the West Allis Radio Amateur Club web site at <<http://www.warac.org>> and download the forms and rules.

Serious contesters and casual operators all will find friends and fun in this party! □

WQP Multiplier List

WISCONSIN COUNTIES				STATES			CANADIAN PROVINCES
ADAMS	FLORENCE	MARATHON	RUSK	ALABAMA	LOUISIANA	OHIO	ALBERTA
ASHLAND	FOND DU LAC	MARINETTE	SAUK	ALASKA	MARYLAND (D.C.)	OKLAHOMA	BRITISH COLUMBIA
BARRON	FOREST	MARQUETTE	SAWYER	ARIZONA	MASSACHUSETTS	OREGON	LABRADOR
BAYFIELD	GRANT	MENOMINEE	SHAWANO	ARKANSAS	MAINE	PENNSYLVANIA	MANITOBA
BROWN	GREEN	MILWAUKEE	SHEBOYGAN	CALIFORNIA	MICHIGAN	RHODE ISLAND	NEW BRUNSWICK
BUFFALO	GREEN LAKE	MONROE	ST. CROIX	COLORADO	MINNESOTA	SOUTH CAROLINA	NEWFOUNDLAND
BURNETT	IOWA	OCONTO	TAYLOR	CONNECTICUT	MISSISSIPPI	SOUTH DAKOTA	NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
CALUMET	IRON	ONEIDA	TREMPEALEAU	DELAWARE	MISSOURI	TENNESSEE	NOVA SCOTIA
CHIPPewa	JACKSON	OUTAGAMIE	VERNON	FLORIDA	MONTANA	TEXAS	ONTARIO
CLARK	JEFFERSON	OZAUKEE	VILAS	GEORGIA	NEBRASKA	UTAH	PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
COLUMBIA	JUNEAU	PEPIN	WALWORTH	HAWAII	NEVADA	VERMONT	QUEBEC
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DODGE	LA CROSSE	PORTAGE	WAUKESHA	ILLINOIS	NEW MEXICO	WEST VIRGINIA	
DOOR	LAFAYETTE	PRICE	WAUPACA	INDIANA	NEW YORK	WISCONSIN	
DOUGLAS	LANGLADE	RACINE	WAUSHARA	KANSAS	NORTH CAROLINA	WYOMING	
DUNN	LINCOLN	RICHLAND	WINNEBAGO	KENTUCKY	NORTH DAKOTA		
EAU CLAIRE	MANITOWOC	ROCK	WOOD				

2000 WISCONSIN QSO PARTY RULES

DATE/TIME: 1800Z MARCH 12 - 0100Z MARCH 13, 2000

MODES: CW and Phone. All stations may be worked once per mode on each band. In addition, mobiles may be worked once per mode per Wisconsin county that they operate from. **Mobiles cannot sit on a County line.**

ENTRY CLASSES:

Single Operator Fixed	Multi Operator Fixed	Multi Xmtr/Multi Op Fixed
Single Operator Mobile	Multi Operator Mobile	Multi Xmtr/Multi Op Mobile
Single Operator Novice	Multi Operator Novice	Multi Xmtr/Multi Op Novice
Single Operator Tech	Multi Operator Tech	Multi Xmtr/Multi Op Tech

EXCHANGE: Wisconsin stations send county. Non-Wisconsin stations send state or province or country.

FREQUENCIES: CW: 3550, 3705, 7050, 7125, 14050, 15M CW, 10M CW, 6M CW, 2M CW
Phone: 3890, 7230, 14290, 21350, 28400, 6M SSB & FM, 2M SSB & FM
**** Suggested frequencies. Others may be used.**

SCORING: Phone contacts count 1 QSO Point; CW contacts count 2 QSO Points.
No Repeater QSOs.

WISCONSIN STATIONS: Multiply the sum of QSO points by the sum of Wisconsin counties (max. 72), plus states (max. 50) plus Canadian provinces (max. 13) worked. Note: DX countries worked count for QSO points but not as multipliers.

NON-WISCONSIN STATIONS: Multiply the sum of QSO points by the number of Wisconsin counties worked (max. 72).

BONUS: **WISCONSIN MOBILES/PORTABLES:** Add 500 bonus points for each county that you operate from, outside your home county, with a minimum of 12 QSOs per county to qualify.

LOGS: Entries must contain a log consisting of: Time (GMT), call, band, state/province, Wisconsin county, mode and a complete Score Summary including YOUR name, address and call. Circle new multipliers as worked. Logs containing more than 200 QSOs must be accompanied by a dupe sheet (separate dupe sheet for each mode). Mobile entries must indicate county changes in log.

Entries must be postmarked by **March 31, 2000** and sent to:

**WISCONSIN QSO PARTY
WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB
P. O. BOX 1072
MILWAUKEE, WI 53201**

AWARDS: **NON-WISCONSIN:** Awards will be presented to the following:
a. Highest single operator score in the QSO Party.
b. Highest single operator score in each single operator category in each state/province.

WISCONSIN: Awards will be presented to the following:
a. Highest single operator score in the QSO Party.
b. 10 highest single operator scores in each entry class.
c. Highest multi-operator score in each entry class.
d. Highest aggregate club score (club member stations to be located within 50 miles of the club, except for mobiles).



NEWDXA has a visitor

The North East Wisconsin DX Association (NEWDXA) enjoyed a visit with Victor Goonetilleke, 4S7-VK, during a recent visit with John Meyer, NZ9Z. Left to right are Dave Jaeger, WN9Q; Bob Kallio, N9NUP; Tom Prust, N9WI; John Meyer, NZ9Z; Gerry Radtke, WA9-GON; Victor, 4S7VK; Mike Ortlieb, KN9P; and George Croy, W9MDP. The NEWDXA web site at www.execpc.com/~w9zt has links to many ham radio web sites.

Photo and info
courtesy of John Meyer, NZ9Z

February 2000 BSSS

Quizzical Quiz

Here, as promised, is another mind-bending, extremely difficult BSSS quiz. What's it worth? This time, it's twenty bucks and one other item. That means I don't know what that item will be.. yet.

Prior winners are not eligible.

Entries may be submitted by email to smokesigs@baraboo.com or snailed to Badger State Smoke Signals, 412½ Ash Street, Baraboo, WI 53913-2501.

Deadline for entries is February 29, 2000.

And away we go.....

1. What company is the world's largest manufacturer of Amateur Radio accessories? (Hint: See page 5.)

2. What is the date of the Wisconsin QSO Party (in CST)?

3. Was the Amateur Radio Service recently restructured by the FCC?

Yes No

4. What is the date of the NSRCfest / a/k/a LAMARSfest?

5. What is the telephone number of Antenna Service Plus?

6. What is the first name of the owner of Rich's General Store and Surplus?

7. In what city does BSSS' editor reside?

8. Who writes the "Computer Corner" column each month in BSSS?

9. On what page is the column of the Wisconsin Valley Radio Association (WVRA)?

10. In what city is the Circus World Museum?

That's the quiz. It hopefully won't strain your thinker too much, and we hopefully look forward to receiving your answers.

In case of a tie(s), the winner will be determined by drawing.

Good luck! ☐

2000 WISCONSIN QSO PARTY SCORE SUMMARY SHEET

Name _____ Call _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip _____

Home WI County _____ Club Affiliation _____

ENTRY CLASS: ___ Single Op Fixed ___ Multi Op Fixed ___ Multi-Multi Fixed
 ___ Single Op Mobile ___ Multi Op Mobile ___ Multi-Multi Mobile
 ___ Single Op Novice ___ Multi Op Novice ___ Multi-Multi Novice
 ___ Single Op Tech ___ Multi Op Tech ___ Multi-Multi Tech

WI Counties Worked From _____

SCORING: CW QSOs _____ x 2 = _____ CW Points

Phone QSOs _____ x 1 = _____ Phone Points

Sum of CW + Phone Points = _____ QSO Points

Number of Multipliers = _____ Multipliers

Wis. Counties (Max. 72) _____

States (Max. 50) _____

Provinces (Max. 13) _____

QSO Points x Multipliers = _____ Points

Bonus Points = _____ Points

Final Score = _____ Points

ALL OPERATORS must sign - CLEARLY - including callsign - I have followed the 2000 WIQP RULES:

Signature(s) _____

Bform

Date _____

All entries must be sent to: 2000 WISCONSIN QSO PARTY, WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB, P. O. BOX 1072, MILWAUKEE, WI 53201, postmarked no later than March 31, 2000. The Wisconsin QSO Party Rules Committee may disqualify late entries and/or those entries with QSO Party Rules violations. Results will be available on the internet at <http://www.wisconsinqso.org> or by submitting an SASE with entry.

New event list for BSSS

If your club or group will operate a special event station or be on the air to commemorate an event, please tell BSSS about it. We're adding a "Special Event" column to both our printed and web editions. It is not restricted to Wisconsin stations. Please send information to Jim Romelfanger, Badger State Smoke Signals, 412½ Ash St., Baraboo, WI 53913-2501. Email: smokesigs@baraboo.com. No verbal information, please.

Russian delays in ISS launch show ARISS team's flexibility

Despite launch delays, Amateur Radio will be available to the first crew members to live on the International Space Station, thanks to some quick shuffling of plans by those involved with the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station project. Initial ham gear now will be installed temporarily aboard the Functional Cargo Block module, already in space, instead of aboard the Service Module. The station would use existing non-ham antennas that can function on 2 meters.

Flaws recently revealed in the Russian Proton booster rocket further put off the launch of the Zvezda Service Module that was to house initial ISS crews and initial amateur gear.

An all-ham initial ISS crew and the amateur gear could go into space as early as this summer, instead of this spring as planned. Original ARISS plans had called for installation of basic VHF-UHF amateur gear and antennas aboard the Service Module.

Russian space agency chief Yuri Koptev said this week that Russia plans to put the Service Module into space at the end of July. But Koptev also indicated that his country will need additional financial help to cover the costs of its space endeavors. Those projects include rejuvenating the aging Mir space station.

"Our ham equipment eventually will be installed in the Service Module," explained ARRL Field and Educational Services Manager Rosalie White, WA1STO -- a member of the SAREX Working Group. White says the shift in ARISS plans meant the US and Russian ISS partners have had to tackle some new issues, including connectors, feed lines, and attachment within the Functional Cargo Block. Russian qualification testing for gear that will fly in the Russian module was said to be nearly complete this week.

White will report in detail on the ARISS project's status to the ARRL Board of Directors, meeting this weekend in Memphis.

The first ISS crew includes US astronaut Bill Shepherd, KD5GSL, and Russian Cosmonauts Sergei Krikalev, U5MIR, and the recently licensed Yuri Gaidzenko, whose call sign was not available. Shepherd's designated backup is astronaut Ken Bowersox, who just passed his Amateur Radio exam this month.

The SWG has tapped John Nickel, WD5EEV, to be Project Manager of ARISS. He'll work with SAREX Principal Investigator Matt Bordelon, KC5BTL. Nickel was SAREX Principal Investigator before he retired from NASA.

In her report to the ARRL Board, White said the multinational ARISS project has generated a new dimension of challenges and difficulties. "If someone had asked how much work it would take to have Amateur Radio onboard the International Space Station, the SAREX Working Group would have never even come close to guessing the correct number of hours," she said. In the spirit of "one of the fine ham traditions we hold dear," White concluded, the ARISS team would continue to find the time and know-how to work through the challenges and problems ahead.

The ARRL Letter

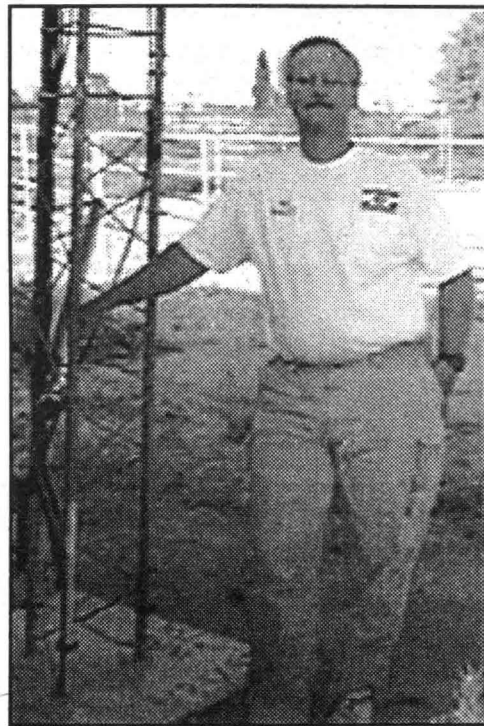
The Leonids and K6ZZ

Continued from front page

The web site, called "Leonid MAC '99 Homepage", is a very interesting site. It contains many pictures of the researchers and crew. Everyone aboard seemed to have a camera, but I couldn't find a picture of Bob. So I wrote the following in an e-mail to the site. "I enjoyed the pictures very much. However, I was disappointed that no pictures were taken of my son, Bob Selbrede, while on the mission. At least he does not appear on any photos that I could find. His name was referenced in a couple of places on the web site. I would like to know a little about what contribution Bob Selbrede made while on the mission."

First, I received a reply from one of the researchers stating that my message would be forwarded to one of the mission chiefs. I hit the jackpot as I received the following from Dr. Peter Jenniskens, who is also the Webmaster for the NASA web site.

"I wish you a happy new year and many occasions to enjoy the company of your family. You can be proud of Bob, Jr., your son. He played an essential role in the NASA/USAF "Leonid Multi-Instrument



Bob Selbrede, K6ZZ

Aircraft Campaign" by facilitating the live transmission of the spectacular meteor shower footage that was taken onboard the ARIA aircraft on November 18, 1999, between 1 and 3 UT. Bob was at the helm in setting up the transmission system onboard ARIA, cleverly using its 7 foot dish in the nose in a novel way for transmission rather than

receiving of S-band signals, sending live video over NASA's TDRSS satellite system network from above the Mediterranean Sea all the way up to NASA/Ames Research Center in California, by ways of NASA/Goddard and White Sands.

"At Ames, the signal was distributed to the world by posting on the internet. Last week, I attended the three tenors concert here in San Jose. 14,000 people were in a nearly filled San Jose arena. When Bob sent that signal out, five times that size crowd were watching. One meteor amateur friend, who is now blind because of an industry accident, told me that this broadcast allowed him to join in the excitement caused by the rare meteor storm by listening to our excited voices at seeing the shower explode and rain down with six and seven shooting stars at a time.

"For me, this was a dream come true, but it was Bob and others at the 452nd who made that possible. He worked hard for it and did not give up in the face of stubborn technical problems. His enthusiasm brought a large group of people together to make this happen! We are proud and very thankful of his effort. I'm sorry he wasn't on many pictures that were taken. I guess Bob enjoyed his work best out of the glaring light of the video cameras."

Regards,
Dr. Peter Jenniskens

□

SEWFARS SWAPFEST

HAMRADIOS COMPUTERS ELECTRONICS

SUNDAY

March 12, 2000

8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

SETUP STARTS AT 6:00 AM

WAUKESHA COUNTY EXPO CENTER

WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN

ADMISSION \$5.00 AT DOOR

RESERVED TABLES PER 4ft. \$6.00

ELECTRICAL OUTLET \$7.50

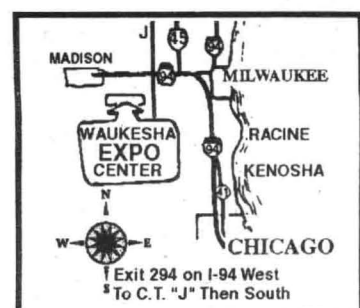
AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS

RESERVATION DEADLINE IS FEB. 14, 2000 - Order early!

Mail with S.A.S.E. - Make Check Payable to SEWFARS Inc. Mail to: P.O. Box 102 Delafield, WI 53018
for more information Phone (414) 835-7035 / TALK - IN 146.820 - PL 127.3



WAUKESHA EXPO CENTER



_____ ADMISSION TICKETS \$5.00 MUST be purchased with table

_____ TABLE RESERVATION \$6.00 for each 4ft. table

_____ ELECTRICAL OUTLET \$7.50

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Brief Description of Display & Items being sold. _____

Must Be Mailed with a S.A.S.E. Make check payable to: SEWFARS Inc.

Mail To: SEWFARS P.O. Box 102 Delafield, WI 53018 Phone (414) 835-7035

Have you considered becoming an
ARRL Volunteer Examiner?



If you are 18 or older, and are presently a General, Advanced, or Extra class licensee, the ARRL/VEC would be glad to hear from you. Feel free to contact the ARRL/VEC at (800) 927-7583 and request our Prospective VE Packet. Very 73 to all my friends in Wisconsin!

Bart Jahnke, W9JJ1, ARRL/VEC Manager

PARTICIPATING CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

Kim Kunze, N9SDL, Secretary

P.O. Box 363 • Wausau, WI 54402

Six Meter Repeater: 51.19 Input/52.89 Output

BSSS apologizes for failing to publish the December minutes in the January issue. Kim submitted them in plenty of time. We can offer no excuse other than human frailty. We will try to not let an omission occur again. Thanks.

Meeting Minutes December 7th, 1999

Meeting was called to order by KB9DED. Members present: N9NMH, N9TTA, KB9FRB, KB9DZG, N9SDL, KB9MCZ, N9SDI, N9LIA, N9MEA, N9PHC, W9WW, N9WPH, N9NRC, KB9RXA, KB9VBR, KC9NW, N9QQ, KB9JMB, KB9QHR, N9OWD, and visiting was Harry, K9UKT.

Old Business

The WVRA has assembled a list of volunteers for the Y2K support of Wausau Hospital which will be onsite and available for emergency communications in the event that the GTE phone system goes down 01-01-2000. Included will be possibly strategic placement of amateurs in the area to provide communication support for doctors on call that evening. Don, W9WW, is chair for this event and will be contacting those on the list regarding their location. We will also have operators at WPS and at the Division 4 State Patrol HQ.

The WVRA grant application rough draft was submitted for review and received back with feed back for finalization. We will continue to proceed with the submittal.

Thanks to the following for helping prepare and present the Christmas Parade float: KB9DED, N9NMH, N9PHC, KB9FRB, KB9DZG, KB9VBR, KB9RXA.

New Business

Results from Field Day 1999 showed the WVRA to be the top 5A Field Day station.

Discussed the idea of a Special Event Station with special call for the 150th birthday of Marathon County on April 1, 2000 we will need to decide in time to submit for the special call and publication of the Special Event Station in QST. We could set up right down town where Penny's was tore down.

Rich, KC9NW, presented the idea of a combiner system on the new TV tower on Rib Mountain where the 146.82 and 146.64 repeater systems could share the same antenna systems similar to the way Channel 7 and 9 share the TV antenna. The cost will be in the \$30K range. Another thought was discussed of combining the WVRA and RMRA into a single club. Declining memberships and dwindling resources make consideration of such an idea appealing to some while others expressed reservation.

A motion by N9SDL and second by N9WPH for the WVRA Board and RMRA Board to meet prior to January 31, 2000 to discuss the idea of combining the two clubs into one and bring back a proposal to the general membership. Voice vote all in favor with one voicing opposition.

The WVRA membership will discuss our feelings and options in regard to combining the clubs at the January meeting. Following on January 16th at 7:00, the two boards will meet to discuss.

Both clubs will proceed with individual grant applications for funds.

*Respectfully submitted:
Kim Kunze, N9SDL*

Meeting Minutes January 4, 2000

Meeting was called to order by KB9DED. Members present: N9NMH, N9TTA, KB9FRB, KB9DZG, N9SDL, KB9MCZ, N9SDI, N9MEA, N9PHC, W9WW, N9WPH, N9NRC, KB9RXA, N9IAB, K9QM.

Old Business

Thanks to all who participated in the Y2K Wausau Hospital support and to Don, W9WW, who coordinated the assignment of operators and roll call check in throughout the evening and early morning of 01-01-2000. It was a wonderfully quiet evening as far as emergency communications go. The following participated: N9MEA, N9NMH, WA9DGB, N9LIA, N9OWD, KB9DED, KB9MCZ, N9SDI, N9SDL, N8WPH, N9QQ, W9WW, K9DB, WD9CPY, N9NQL, N9PHC, WB9WBN, KB9DZG, KB9FRB, and K9JPS.

New Business

A new mounting plate for the WVRA's hydraulic mast. The expenses were \$52 and the hat was passed at the meeting to collect the required funds.

Discussed the idea of a Special Event Station with special call for the 150th birthday of Marathon County on April 1, 2000. We will need to decide in time to submit for the special call and publication of the Special Event Station in QST.

W9WW moved and was seconded by N9MEA to rescind the motion that passed at last month's meeting by N9SDL to meet with the RMRA board to discuss club and antenna consolidation. The motion by W9WW is to not combine either the two clubs or the repeater antenna systems. Nor will we meet with the RMRA to discuss at this time. The motion passed by all members present. Don, W9WW, will call and cancel the meeting.

Greg, KB9MCZ, moved and was seconded by W9WW to instruct the WVRA board to bring back a recommendation as to what should be included in the grant proposal and then present it to the general membership for discussion and action at the February club meeting. The motion passed by members present.

KB9DED indicated that an enclosed trailer will be donated to the WVRA in the very near future. It will be used for storage of club equipment.

Don, W9WW, presented the Amateur license restructuring by the FCC. Great interest was expressed by members present in regard to upgrading.

The WVRA will hold a testing session early in April, prior to the 15th and then a second session after the 15th to process newly acquired CSCE's.

*Respectfully submitted:
Kim Kunze, N9SDL*

Please send Wisconsin QSO Party participant photos to Badger State Smoke Signals! They'll work you in the party - Let 'em see what you look like!

Lakeshore Repeater Association

147.270 MHz • Racine, Wisconsin

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO • 5400 Six Mile Road

Racine, WI 53402-9741

wa9jmo@wi.net

The Lakeshore Repeater meeting of January 25th was an introduction of the Y2K Board, technical updates on both repeaters, and the current and planned changes within our association.

Our new club call sign, WR9RK, will be used with the installation of our new two-meter controller, hopefully by the middle of March. With the new controller comes a more sophisticated autopatch security system. This will give us greater control of user access and afford our members another mode of emergency communication should the need arrive.

I have appointed an audit committee to check our financial reports and report back to the membership on our April 25, 2000 meeting. I will try to lay the groundwork for future yearly January audits during this administration.

Our 440 repeater will be moved from the Explorer Post in Kenosha to somewhere on the west side of southern Racine County.

We no longer have access use to the roof of the building housing the Explorer Post and have been asked to remove our equipment from there. As soon as a suitable location is found and the weather permits, we will relocate the 440 machine.

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, March 18, 2000, and plan to join us at the Racine Yacht Club for our annual Awards Ham Banquet. Details in the form of a flyer will be handed out at all radio gatherings up to that great event. The banquet allows us to honor those Amateur Radio operators who have contributed their time, talent, and services to our hobby and communities. I need your help in the selection of those individuals. Please give some thought to the ham you might like to see honored. Then jot your reasons on a sheet of paper and sent it to me.

73, Larry McCalvy
WA9JMO

Quarter Century Wireless Association Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

**Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO
5400 Six Mile Road
Racine, WI 53402**



Our Chapter has been invited to participate in an elementary school's Options Program on Friday, February 4th from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Red Apple School in Racine. Our planned agenda includes HF and two-meter contacts along with a very brief introductory course in CW. We will give the youngsters an Archie Comic Book and let them bang out the code on a half dozen code oscillators we use as "hands on" demonstration items. Our HF and 2-meter contacts (hopefully) will be with control operators utilizing indoor antennas and battery powered transceivers. It should be fun, and I plan on taking a few digital pictures. I have been told that a reporter/photographer from the *Racine Journal Times* will be at the school recording events for the media.

Our January meeting saw ten brave souls battle the elements (small snow storm) to welcome our chapter to the new millennium. Our newest member, Lloyd Gorsiski, WB9RGO, was presented with his chapter name tag and formally welcomed aboard. We would also like to welcome Phil Neumiller, KC9IS, to the chapter.

Y2K committee assignments are as follows:

Olie Fox, K9AKG Award Committee; Ken Knoff, N9NBC, Chair; Bob Jensen, W0WLN; and Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO.

Sunshine Committee: Fern Fisher, W9LCJ, Chair; Ron Fox, K9AKH; Chuck Knotek, W9GKM; and Al Algiers, W9HR.

Field Day Committee: Ken Knoff, N9NBC, Chair; Chuck Knotek, W9GKM; and Ron Fox, K9AKH.

Audit Committee: Herb Ladwig, W9PHJ, Chair; Ed Konicek, W9NVK; and Al Marini, W9CKQ.

Picnic Committee: Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO; Bill Komistra, W9OVZ; and Lloyd Gorsiski, WB9RGO.

W0WLN; Bill Komistra, W9OVZ; and Lloyd Gorsiski, WB9RGO.

Activities Committee: Spencer Clope, W9LDH; Ed Konicek, W9NVK; Bill Hawes, W9ERG; Bob Burgermeister, W9EH; Herb Ladwig, W9PHJ; Al Marini, W9CKQ; Dave Weingart, AA9PK; Don Buska, N9OO; Al Algiers, W9HR; and Lloyd Gorsiski, WB9RGO.

Net Verbal Libations: Spencer Clope, W9LDH.

Net Control Station Ken Knoff, N9NBC.

Our Valentine party will take place at the Meadows Restaurant in Franksville on Sunday, February 13, 2000 beginning at 1 p.m. Guests are welcome. Please make your intentions known to one of the chapter officers or join us on the weekly QCWA net at 9 p.m. Thursday on 147.270 MHz.

In closing, I would like to invite everyone to join our celebration as we honor our local Amateur Radio operators for their contributions to our hobby and their community at our Annual Southeastern Wisconsin Ham Banquet. We are gathering at the Racine Yacht Club on Saturday, March 18, 2000. Registration and cocktails begin at 5:30 p.m., buffet dinner at 6:45 p.m., and the awards program at 8 p.m. Cost is \$17.75 per person. Flyers will be available at all upcoming ham meetings.

73, Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO

Exchange Papers

If your club swaps newsletters with BSSS, please change the address to Don Evenson, K9JYX, 401 11th St., Portage, WI 53012. Thank you!

Mancorad Radio Club

Theresa Hartlaub, KB9KXE,
Secretary

P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI
54221-0204



2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output

MEETING MINUTES January 12, 2000

The January meeting of Mancorad was called to order at 7:36 by Dick (N9QFY).

December minutes were approved as printed in the *Badger State Smoke Signals*. Motion for approval made by Ken (K9HAG), seconded by Gene (KB9KXF).

Roger (W9NPX) gave us the treasurer's report. Motion for approval made by John (NZ9Z) and seconded by Gene (KB9KXF).

Members were once again reminded that dues are to be paid NOW. Please pay Roger (W9NPX).

Next month, a new member roster and MACRO list will be available and handed out at the meeting.

Dick (N9QFY) reported on the hamfest. User fee for the Expo has risen \$35.00 to \$475.00. A discussion was held on options we have in holding the event at another location. Further discussion will be held next month. A sign-up sheet for working was put out. Everyone is encouraged to do their part.

New member Steve (KB9GPN) was welcomed, along with his son, Tom. Also in attendance were Chris (KB9VLS) and Dennis (WD9ERU). Both took applications along.

Thank you to John (NZ9Z), Chuck (N9WUN), Vic (WB9VYO), and Fred (W6BSF). They braved the weather and rang the Salvation Army bells.

Discussion was held on the new FCC license restructuring. It was suggested that theory and code classes be run for all interested in upgrading. John (NZ9Z) and Roger (W9NPX) volunteered to teach theory classes.

The Cobra Sub event will be held April 29 - 30, 2000. This will be the 100th birthday of the sub. TV coverage is a possibility. Last year, we won the award for most contacts. Fred (W6BSF) would like a repeat of this. Everyone is encouraged to participate in this fun event.

A big thank you to John (NZ9Z) for his wonderful presentation and slide show of his trip to Palau. Everyone at the Christmas party enjoyed it. It was certainly the highlight of the party. Thank you also to Fred (W6BSF) and Janice (N9IQZ) for once again planning a great party.

Lunch was provided by Denise (N4WGK). Thank you, Denise.

Dave (N9HNP) was drawn for our membership drawing. He was not in attendance, so the prize goes to \$8.00.

Meeting adjourned at 8:19. Motion made by Conrad (WD9ERM) and seconded by Red (N9GHE).

Submitted for approval:
Theresa Hartlaub, KB9KXE, Secretary

Meeting Attendance

KB9VLS

Chris

E-mail address list

The BSSS e-mail list of Wisconsin radio amateurs' addresses has grown like the proverbial "Topsy". It was recently updated and is on the web at <http://www.bsss.org/>.

If your email address needs an update, or if you'd like to be added to the list, check the site and use the link at the bottom of the email page, or send your address (and web site, if you have one) to wa9pov@execpc.com.

RED CEDAR REPEATER ASSOCIATION, INC.

STEVE HART, KA9OMC, SECRETARY

E616 810TH AVENUE

KNAPP, WI 54749

2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output

Please plan on attending the club auction February 22, 2000 at the American Legion Post 53 at 634 Water Street, Eau Claire, WI. Auction time is 7 p.m. sharp. Doors will open at 6 p.m. for you to set up your items. Equipment should pertain to the electronics hobby. Please mark all items with some identification and what you will accept for a minimum bid. Some snacks and coffee will be provided. W9QAH, Bruce Walther, will auction your items to the highest bidder. The RCRA is not responsible

for any loss. Keep track of your stuff. All sales are final, and we will auction what time will allow. Admission is \$3 or paid year 2000 RCRA support. The RCRA will retain 10% of all sales to offset expenses. Come to buy, sell, or just have fun. See you at the Eau Claire auction. See our display ad on page 4 of this issue of *Badger State Smoke Signals*.

Steve Hart,
KA9OMC, Secretary/Treasurer

**Tri-County Amateur Radio Club
Presents:**

HAMFEST Y2K

(Unless it's 1900... In that case it's a vintage radio swapfest)

Sunday, March 19

**Jefferson County Fairgrounds
Activity Center**
Hwy. 18 West, Jefferson, WI
from 8:00 A.M. until 2:00 p.m.

VE Testing

A SPECIAL NOTE TO VENDORS:

- Vendors will be admitted at 7 a.m. - OTHERS AT 8 A.M. ONLY.
- Vendors only parking will be provided for unloading.
- Plate Lunches and Beverages provided by Jefferson County 4-H

TALK IN ON THE 145.49 REPEATER

ADMISSION: \$4.00

Table Space 8 Foot @ : \$6.00 each.

RESERVE YOUR SPACE EARLY!

TCARC Contact Info:

TCARC 413 S. Main Street, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

920-563-8740 evenings

920-563-9551 (FAX)

tricityarc@globaldialog.com

Governor proclaims Amateur Radio Operator Recognition Day in Wisconsin



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, during times of national and state emergencies amateur radio operators continue to provide communication resources; and

WHEREAS, these communications resources are provided at no cost to the Wisconsin taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, there continues to be a need for amateur radio operators to provide emergency communication capabilities as a backup resource during state and national emergencies; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio organizations such as the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES) and the Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) are organized and trained to provide emergency communication support; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators throughout Wisconsin prepared for and supported the state during Y2K; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio clubs throughout the State of Wisconsin provide radio courses of instruction, encourage and assist with grade school and high school programs about amateur radio, and in the process, enhance student interest in science, geography, and physics, and thus provide the opportunity to become a licensed amateur radio operator; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators inform the world about Wisconsin's great circus heritage including the Circus World Museum, the Great Circus Train, and the Great Circus Parade; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators, participating in SKYWARN, provide trained and radio equipped severe weather spotters to assist the National Weather Service and the State of Wisconsin;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TOMMY G. THOMPSON, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim April 13, 2000 as

AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR RECOGNITION DAY

in the State of Wisconsin, and I commend this observance to all citizens.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this fourteenth day of January in the year two thousand.

Tommy G. Thompson
TOMMY G. THOMPSON

By the Governor:

Douglas La Follette
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State

Y2K Has Come and Gone!

By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR,
ARRL Wisconsin Section
Emergency Coordinator

It turned out to be the largest single activation of ham radio operators in history, in not only Wisconsin, but also all across the USA and, indeed, all across the planet. Had there been major problems, Y2K could have been classified as a major emergency incident, but there were none. Therefore, we can most correctly view it as the largest ham emergency communications exercise in history. We are all glad it is now history!

At the state level, the exercise revealed a few weak spots. We had some problems with packet links across Wisconsin, and there was also the change in State Hamshack frequency, made necessary by QRN and QRM from stations in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Nevertheless, we managed, and typical ham ingenuity and flexibility prevailed. Had there been problems with telephone lines and electric power, we could have provided emergency communications for life safety and public welfare.

Over 40 counties successfully checked into the State Hamshack directly, and many others checked into their Wisconsin Emergency Management Regional Office (as originally intended). The point is, the lines of amateur communication were clearly up and ready.

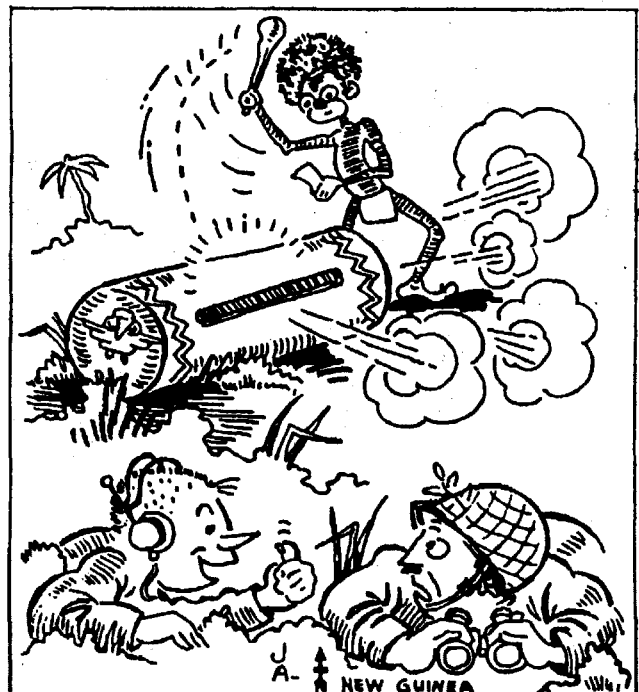
ARES/RACES did a good job! I am well aware of the countless hours of preplanning and antenna raising and rig checking and training and testing that went on in the state among amateurs. I sincerely thank the ARES/RACES groups for that effort, and congratulate them on their performance.

However, it is not just the ARES/RACES hams that deserve thanks, for it was not just ARES/RACES members who were "on the ready." There were many, many more hams who are not ARES/RACES members and who do not normally engage in emergency communications that volunteered and were standing by to provide backup, if needed. What a show of ham spirit! What a wonderful group of people hams are!

Although we did not have to provide emergency communications for actual incidents during Y2K, our efforts to be ready to do so did were well recognized. Both public and governmental awareness of Amateur Radio was given a huge boost during this undertaking. Six of the eight "Whereas" paragraphs in the Governor's Proclamation (at left) speak directly to our role in emergency communications support. Many counties and municipalities are now including ham radio support in their emergency planning documents for the first time. We will most assuredly see positive reverberations from this new awareness of Amateur Radio in the future. □

Seems like only yesterday..

FIELD ARTILLERY JOURNAL—September, 1944



Joe Ash, W9ODV, Sheboygan, started cartooning early. Reproduced here is a panel he drew while serving in the Pacific theatre during WW II.

As the gubernatorial proclamation above says, April 13, 2000 is Amateur Radio Operator Awareness Day in Wisconsin. It mentions Y2K eve in particular. While at state DEM Headquarters in Madison, Governor Thompson talked one day on 40 meters with SEC Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR. Then,

in late afternoon December 31, 1999, Bette Kratz, KF9ZU, found herself talking with the governor on the Baraboo 146.88 repeater. Thanks to the governor for recognizing the volunteer efforts of Wisconsin's radio amateurs.

The Racine Megacycle Club



Club Station W9UDU • Racine, WI
Don Parkinson, KB9HAM, Secretary
c/o RMC • P.O. Box 3 • Racine, WI 54301-0003
e-mail: w9udu@wi.net



Web: <http://www2.wi.net/~hamradio/>
Voice mail: (414) 552-6RMC • ARRL Affiliated

Providing communications for American Red Cross and ARES

Meeting Minutes January 10, 7:30 pm

Into a New Year, there was a New Board: Robert Burgermeister (president), W9EH; Kevin Aney (vice-president), KB9LLV; Greg Holding (treasurer), KB9RNA; Rees Roberts (activities chairman), K9UUT; Don Parkinson (secretary), KB9HAM. Meeting began by having everyone introducing themselves with name and call. No minutes were read from the previous meeting since the last meeting was a Pizza Party. The treasurer's report will also be brought up to date in the next meeting. Rosters and membership application forms were present for those wanting to sign up.

Agenda of the meeting as presented by our president, Bob, W9EH:

1. Emphasis to attracting membership: amateur radio is to have fun and to enjoy ourselves. Enjoy our hobby.
2. Field Day: We expect to place field day on a larger scale. We will operate with more transmitters than we had in the past.
3. Dan, KA9OIL, reported the activity of the W9UDU station from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. New Year's Day, 2000. There were 5 who participated: Dan, KA9OIL; Cheryl, WS9P; Robert, KF9ZT; N9RGV, Larry, WA9JMO, and Ralph. Activated W9UDU -- made 33 contacts, Guatemala, Italy, ran 100 watts on a vertical. One contact running 1.8 Watts was contacted on 15 meters. Ralph took digital pictures of the event. Dan said, "They were so busy on 10 and 15 that they weren't able to get on 75 meters." Signals were good until

later in the afternoon when they began to die out.

4. President would like to make the station more active. Possibly opening it up Sunday evenings or mornings.

The new re-structuring guidelines were mentioned, and that the club has the complete 70 pages of changes available for those that are interested in reading it.

The president encouraged the club to make an attempt to upgrade by having code class or having technical classes for those interested.

Our treasurer, Greg, KB9RNA, said he is waiting until the end of January by those who have renewed their membership. By next month the roster will show the new or renewed members that was handed out this evening.

Rees Roberts, K9UUT, mentioned that this year's programs are open to the club members for new ideas. Everyone should notify him of what they are interested in learning so that we can make the club what they would like to get out of it. This particular meeting we had a special program.

Next month, we will get someone who is very knowledgeable in cellular phones. Learn about how it works and about the towers they use.

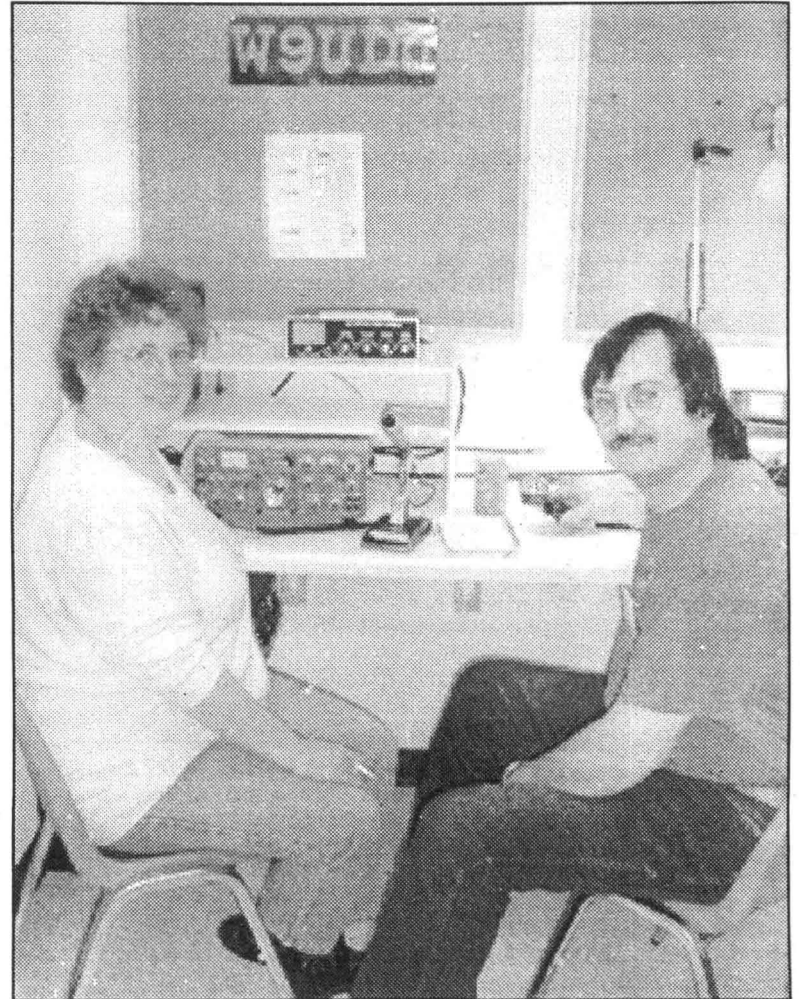
Field Day: Any ideas? I have a suggestion from the swapfest on the weekend. A technical roundtable discussion was suggested.

Dan, KA9OIL, spoke of the ARRL Millennial Award Starting January 1st to Sept 31st. Make 100 contacts using the ARRL criteria for any DX list. You don't need QST cards.

The president asked: "How many have been on the air since January 1st other than

Cheryl Miller, WS9P, and Dan Miller, KA9OIL (not related) operated Racine Megacycle Club station W9UDU at the Racine Red Cross building to welcome in the new millennium on January 1, 2000. A special QSL card with a photo of the five operators (add KF9ZT, N9RGV, and WA9JMO) goes to all 33 contacts.

Photo courtesy
Larry McCalvy,
WA9JMO



two meters? HF? .. HF domestic contact? European contact? 3 out of the room .. THAT'S PATHETIC!!" (in humor).

Dave, KC9NG, will be volunteering himself to present on DXing. Special Event last November from the National Weather Service and gave out a special certificate. Dave received the Cumulus Award for his efforts.

Several sources were brought up for Amateur Radio activities.

How do we exchange ideas and activities to the membership? (Webpage, chat board, the Weather Net on Wednesday, or having a new net organized by the RMC. Other suggestions were brought up.)

Phillip Neumiller, KC9IS, introduced K9AXI, Nick Petrick, of the program. Nick is an interesting guy, he has a background in electronics and likes to tinker with several things. One of those challenges was the

Tesla Coil. Phil turned it on and we all had a hair-raising experience. To some it might have been a shocking experience and to us who were present, very interesting and entertaining. Of course, we saw the fluorescent light bulb light up as Phil approached the bulb close to the source. Is there any applications that can be utilized by this device? From the ozone that was produced, a sense of spring came to our olfactory. Did we just sense the smell after a stormy rainy night? No, but it gave the impression of such an event.

Larry, WA9JMO, brought flyers for the 18th Annual Southeastern Wisconsin Banquet at the Racine Yacht Club for \$17.75 for those interested in joining.

Meeting adjourned and many of us joined again at "Reflection's" where we mingled in conversation and just having FUN!!



SHEBOYGAN County Amateur Radio Club

Sky Borkenhagen, N9XRU, Secretary
N6466 Plank Circle • Glenbeulah WI 53023

2-Meter Repeater: 147.06 Output

January Minutes

The January meeting of the Sheboygan County Amateur Radio Club was called to order by club president Steve, N9TRK, at 7 p.m. There were 10 members present. The SCARC meets every second Tuesday of the month at the Red Cross Building, 2032 Erie Avenue, Sheboygan.

This was an informal, informational meeting with refreshments and a presentation by Mike, K9SJ, on the PSK31. Thank you, Mike, for doing such a nice job!

The meeting concluded at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Sky Borkenhagen, N9XRU

The Saturday morning SCARC breakfast is held at the following venues:

1st Saturday, 8 a.m., Jumes in Sheboygan

2nd Saturday, 8 a.m., Family Restaurant in Cleveland

3rd Saturday, 8 a.m., Jumping Jacks, Kohler Sports Center

4th Saturday, 8 a.m., Park View Restaurant, County PP, Sheboygan Falls

5th Saturday, 8 a.m., Hill Farm Restaurant, County V and OK

To sign up for the SCARC e-mail list, submit your address to

<julian@bongo.tele.com>.

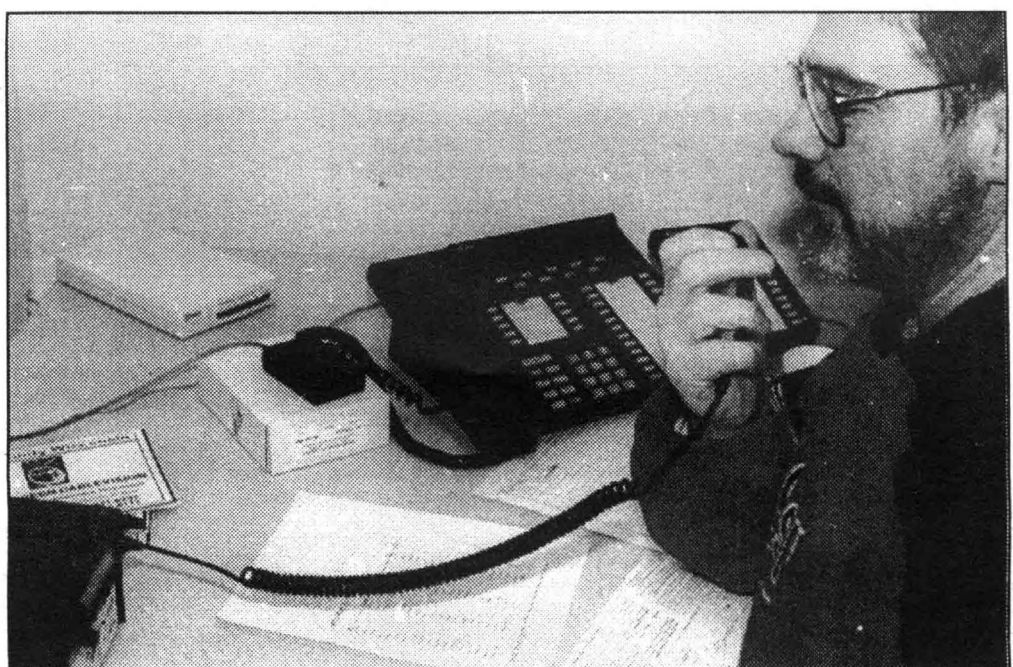
All messages sent to this address will be forwarded to all listed subscribers. Thank you, N6ARE, for providing this service.

Postal address: SCARC, P.O. Box 1282, Sheboygan, WI 53082-1282.

Net Schedule: 8 p.m. Monday night, SCARC Fun Net, 147.060, PL 107.2+. ☐

Thank You
for reading
Badger State
Smoke Signals

Y2K EVE AND ALL'S WELL



Y2K eve found four radio amateurs in the Sauk County Department of Emergency Government's Emergency Operating Center, and this fellow was one of them. He's Len Wagner, N9XJG, rural Baraboo, who is also the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club's newest secretary. The others were Pete Sweeney, WD9JIB (EC), Jim, K9ZZ, and Paul Belton, WA9CDY, who dropped in for an equipment check.

ARRL Board meets

Continued from page 4

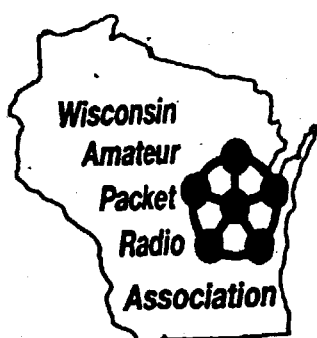
meeting concludes January 22. All terms are for two years.

In other business, the Board plans to discuss the implications of the FCC's recently announced license restructuring plan that goes into effect April 15, 2000. In a related vein, the Board will hear the second installment of a report from ARRL Execu-

tive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, on Amateur Radio in the year 2010 and beyond. Sumner's report will expand on one of the themes of his preliminary report delivered to the Board in July 1999: voluntary certification programs to encourage continuing education and skills development by radio amateurs above and beyond the licensing requirements.

The Board also will hear plans to enhance the League's presence on the World Wide Web.

The ARRL Letter



THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association

Allen Schnepf, NØGMJ, Treasurer
Ogema, WI 54459

Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor • 453 Cottage Grove Avenue • Green Bay, WI 54304 • e-mail: kb9aln@juno.com

WAPR News - February, 2000

Hello everyone, hope you have recovered from the Y2K "non-event" and are back to the routine. While we may be tempted into considering it an unwise expenditure of time, this was a golden opportunity for us.

Not only did we get the chance to work with our fellow hams in "alert mode", we also got to take our equipment out for a "shakedown run". This includes our packet radio network. A lot of stations used the packet network to connect to the WEM BBS in Madison, and this heavy load was certainly enough to give it a good test. If you have any real-life reports on how the network behaved during this outing, feel free to mail me and relate your experiences.

In Brown county, we had an extensive response that included some 30 operators stationed at various critical spots throughout the county. Packet radio was part of the operation, with two packet stations on the air. One was located at our temporary E.O.C., the other at the National Weather Service office in Green Bay. In the event of a large-scale power outage that may have rendered conventional media outlets unusable, plans were made to disseminate information to the public via NOAA Weather Radio stations in Green Bay, Fon-Du-Lac, Sister Bay, Wausau and Crandon. The packet station at the Green Bay NWS office was set to print out any messages automatically, saving time for the two operators at the office, if any problems developed.

The E.O.C. in Green Bay was also capable of packet contact with neighboring counties, and we did have a network connection to the WEM BBS in Madison. We had registered at the BBS in advance. The one report message that we left took no time at all.

One reason that we were able to access the WEM BBS was the generosity of Larry Shields, WD9ESU. Larry operates a large BBS near North Freedom and generously offered to put a special port for 145.61 MHz (the statewide ARES node frequency) for the WEM hamshack station to use. Thanks Larry, for stepping in and helping to fill a void.

Which brings us to the painful part of our exercise - evaluation. While Larry did provide a necessary link to the rest of the packet network, the Y2K packet activity also pointed out the deficiencies in our network. While we are truly lucky to have people willing to put time, effort, energy and money into the packet network, we really need more of a network. Some areas still do not have connectivity with the WEM hamshack, and this is a situation that needs our attention if we are truly going to be of use in an emergency situation.

Those of you who have regularly worked disaster drills (and even the real thing) know that the Internet has proven to be vital in such disasters. However, it is certainly vulnerable. Which brings our reason for being in the forefront: What would happen to your county's emergency operations if there was no internet, or no way to access it? I suspect that emergency operations would be seriously impaired. Here is where packet radio - and a good network to support it - comes into the picture.

In an age where some may say that packet radio is dead, this is obviously one very important reason for keeping it alive. Perhaps our packet operating style will be different in the future, but emergency operations are certainly one area where packet can shine, and brilliantly. This is one very important reason to keep packet radio alive and well, and keep building a high-speed, multi-protocol capable network.

WAPR is committed to this, and hopes you will help in this expansion effort. How can you help? Of course there is joining WAPR, and there are other ways. Helping to obtain sites and equipment, volunteering to assist in system operation, and acceptance of new technologies are some very important things that need to be done, and if you can help with these, your efforts will help to build and maintain the packet radio network.

How do you go about doing this? Simple, ask your local sysop. He or she can generally use the help. And if you have no local packet facilities, contact us - WAPR - and we can help you get your area packet active.

That's all I have time and space for this month. Until next time, 73 from Andy.

Linux and Packet Radio - Part 5

By Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

In part 4 of our mini-series, we started to look at JNOS and talked about some of the services it can provide, and

what you would need to successfully run it. This month, we continue with a look at some of the configuration files that influence how JNOS runs, basic operation, and some information sources.

Configuration and the autoexec.nos File

The master configuration file for JNOS is the autoexec.nos file. This is where you start the various servers, tell the program what your call-sign and IP address are, and control each of the various subsystems.

The contents of this file need to appear in a certain order. Your best bet is to edit one of the example files in the JNOS document package to suit your needs. The basic order of commands is:

Set the hostname, mycall and IP address.
Set the AX.25 parameters like paclen, beacon text, etc.

Set the TCP/IP parameters.
Configure the interfaces that talk to your TNC, usually the serial port.

Configure the TNC KISS parameters.
Start the servers you wish to use.
Set the smtp and ftp systems parameters.
Set up the mailbox/BBS system.
Set up the Net/Rom (TheNet) node.
Set up other special functions such as the convers server.

Add TCP/IP routes to other stations.
Other Configuration Files - A short List
alias is a file that allows you (or anyone else using your system) to use nicknames instead of full addresses when using smtp mail.

dojnos is a file that is kind of like an MS-DOS batch file. There is some information that you will need to change from the example files, so be sure to modify this one as well.

forward.bbs contains instructions on how to forward mailbox and BBS mail. Comment out most of the contents of the example file until you thoroughly understand how this is supposed to work.

ftpusers is a file that dictates who will have access to your station, and how much they can do when they access it. Be sure to edit the example file to suit yourself and users who may connect to your station.

rewrite is a file that allows you to change how smtp and mailbox/BBS mail is delivered. I highly suggest you not edit this file until you thoroughly understand it. BBS operators will have to modify this file, but most example

files furnished will be fine for the average user.

Starting JNOS

Before you get ready to try it out, you need to have a TNC ready to go at the appropriate serial speed and in the appropriate mode. If you are using a TNC (rather than, say, a Baycom modem), the TNC will be operating in the KISS mode. Consult your TNC instruction manual for instructions, different TNCs have subtle differences in commands for this.

Once you have the TNC ready to go, you start the program by typing ./dojnos at your shell prompt. A command screen will appear, and any errors in configuration will be reported by JNOS as it starts up. There are also hints as to the proper command syntax if this happens. Hopefully, you will see few, if any of these.

Commands and additional configuration are done at the command screen, which you can switch to by using the F10 key if you aren't already there. F9 gives you a monitor screen called a trace screen. Each connection you make is called up with keys F1-F8, if you have that many connections going. Each connection is called a "session", you open and close sessions when you initiate or end a session. Hitting the F10 key brings you back to the command screen.

There is plenty to explore with JNOS, and you will also have plenty of reading to do. But it can be a fun adventure, and if you have never run a program like this before, you will quickly appreciate it's advanced capabilities.

Sources:

To obtain JNOS sources and it's document packages:
<ftp://pc.usl.edu/pub/ham/jnos>

To obtain the RPM version of JNOS:
<http://hnx.hi8gn.ampr.org/pub/Linux/HamRadio/jnos>

To obtain the Red Hat Package Manager:
<http://www.rpm.org>

That's it for this mini-series. If you have additional questions, I will be happy to try and answer them. Contact me via one of the methods listed at the top of the page.

Until next time, 73 from Andy.

WISCONSIN AMATEUR PACKET RADIO MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: _____ CALL: _____ HOME PHONE: (____) _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME BBS: _____ FREQ: _____ (Listing your home BBS is important)

Your HOME BBS should be a full service BBS, not your TNC's mailbox.

MY PACKET STATION OPERATES: _____ DAY _____ NIGHT _____ 24HRS

I OPERATE A: _____ DIGIPEATER WITH ALIAS OF: _____

_____ FULL SERVICE BBS

PRIMARY PACKETINTEREST/EXPERTISE IS: _____

_____ YES I want to receive Badger State Smoke Signals and I understand that part of my dues goes to pay this subscription. cost \$20.00

_____ NO I do not wish to receive Badger State Smoke Signals as a part of my WAPR membership. Cost \$15.00

COMPLETE and return this form with your check or money order - \$15.00 membership only or \$20.00 membership and Badger State Smoke Signals. made payable to W.A.P.R. to:

Allen Schnepf, NØGMJ, Treasurer
W5000 SR 86
PO Box 558
Ogema, WI 54459

THE TEST POINT

Continued from page 3

For those with internet access, a listing of exam sessions is available from:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.shtml>

By checking this page, you can find registered VE sessions anywhere in US and some overseas. You can search by country, state or zip code. The listing is not specific to any particular VEC. It is a master database.

Thanks to Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, ARRL/VEC

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB (MRAC/VEC), MILWAUKEE

Last Saturday, except June, July, and August, 9:30 a.m. to noon at Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), 5710 W. Good Hope Road, Milwaukee. For additional information, call (414) 797- MRAC (answering machine) or (414) 797-6722. Bring along your original license, CSCE (if any), and one (1) good quality photocopy of each, plus two forms of identification, such as a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$6.40 for the exam fee. Walk-ins are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card: Print the grade of license you are applying for, your name, address, and telephone number, and send the card to MRAC/VEC, Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, PO Box 25707, Milwaukee, WI 53225.

BADGER EXAMINERS (BE) - MILWAUKEE

Every third Saturday morning, 9:30 a.m. to noon, Badger Examiners group tests at AES (Amateur Electronic Supply) at 60th and Good Hope, Milwaukee. Exams are given at the old Sterman Printing shop, just 300 feet west of the AES store. Novice to Extra are offered, and all test materials are provided. Fee is \$6.35, and bring your original license, or CSCE if needed.

Also available are Commercial license exams GROL (General Radiotelephone license), GMDSS, Telegraph, etc. Fee is \$35.00. For more information call Gary Sharbuno, WI9M at (414) 355-0237.

MADISON, WI

Every second Saturday morning at 8 a.m. VE exams are held in Madison. They are held at the operations building of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District at 1610 Moorland Rd. Directions: Take the Beltline (Hwy 12 and 18) to South Towne Drive. Go south 8/10 mile until South Towne Drive makes a bend and becomes Moorland Road and enter at gate. You should bring a picture ID, your original license and a copy of your license. For exams beyond the novice tests, bring a check for \$6.65, made out to the ARRL/VEC. If the special 610 form with the medical exemption is required, contact me beforehand to obtain one. No appointments are necessary to take exams. For further questions, please leave a message on the mailbox or phone me at (608) 832-6631.

Mark Jenks, N29B

MENOMONIE, WI

March 25 and November 4, 2000: The Menomonee area hams will conduct VE exams for all classes of licenses. The location will be the U.W.-Stout Communications Center, 820 South Broadway, Menomonee Wisconsin. Walk-ins only. Arrive between 9 and 11 a.m. For information, contact Jim Ley, NX9F, (715) 235-3998 (H), or (715) 232-1397 (W).

STEVENS POINT, WI - ARRL/VEC

ARRL Exams in Stevens Point, Time: 0930. Place: A107 Science Building, on campus at UWSP (corner of Fourth and Reserve streets) For more information contact Joe Larson, N9JW, at 715- 344-1182 evenings or email to joel8@bigfoot.com.

RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC

Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August. Monthly exams are given 9 to 11 a.m. at the Faith United Methodist Church, 1013 Harmony Drive, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted. Talk in on 147.871.27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Robert N. Jensen, W0WLN, 5616 Cambridge lane #6, Racine, WI. Telephone (414) 886-8551.

TOMAHAWK, WI

Last Saturday of every month. Jan. thru Oct. Tomahawk Volunteer Examiners (ARRL/VEC). Tomahawk, WI. No advance registration required, but appointment would be appreciated. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testing starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633.

APPLETON, WI - ARRL/VEC

MANITOWOC, WI (HAMFEST)
KAUKAUNA, WI (HAMFEST)
Conducted by the Fox Cities ARC VE team. All regular test sessions are held at the American Red Cross Building in Appleton. Testing starting at 8 a.m. For Appleton information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (920) 730-0967. For Manitowoc or Kaukauna information, contact Larry Siebers, KD9IA (920) 759-1167.

OSHKOSH (OMRO)

The Oshkosh VE Team will administer Amateur Radio exams monthly on the first Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m.



Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)

Leonard Wagner, N9XJG, Secretary
E10262 Hootowl Drive • Baraboo, WI 53913



The Jan 4, 2000 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club, Inc. was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Steven Schulze, Club President. The minutes were accepted as published in Smoke Signals and the members e-mail with the following corrections: Dues for the year 2000 are \$18.00 as they have been, not \$20.00 as stated in the report. Brad Pointon's call is KB9VMC not KB9UMC as printed. Sorry for any problems this misinformation may have caused. A treasurer's report was given by Bill Klinkner (N9KXX).

OLD BUSINESS: Everyone had a great time at the Christmas party, and we the members & guest's would like to express our heartfelt thanks to Bill & Ann Klinkner for inviting us into their home for this great time of fellowship. A follow up report on the success of the Y2K exercise at the Emergency Government Office was given by Pete Sweeney (WD9JIB), the EOC, and Leonard Wagner (N9XJG) one of the Net operators. The Exercise was a great success. Thanks to all who participated. Pete the EOC is working on expanding the operation to include a couple of additional antenna's and a Packet system which is planned to be in place by spring of 2000. Steve Schulze & James Paul (N9LKY) gave a follow up report on the club repeater. It is on 147.315 MHz + 600 PL of 123.0 HZ and is open for YTARC and friends. The site is now operational for testing. Give it a try out! Thanks to Brad Pointon (KB9VMC), Len Kryer (N9QIP), Art Kleefisch (W9WSS) for their help on this project.

NEW BUSINESS: There was a short discussion about the new FCC License Restructuring. It was explained that no one would loose any privileges that they currently have when the new plan goes into affect, and all testing will go on as normal until the new plan takes over. Tom Harrison (N9PQJ) moved to adjourn and Peter Sweeney seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

BUCK NIGHT WINNER was James Paul.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday February 1, 2000 at 7:30 p.m., room 18, Baraboo Civic Center.

The following members were present.

Leonard Wagner	N9XJG	Baraboo
Art Kleefisch	W9WSS	Baraboo
Duane Grotophorst	N9DG	North Freedom
Jim Paul	N9LKY	Baraboo
Thomas Harrison	N9PQJ	Reedsburg
Peter Sweeney	WD9JIB	Reedsburg
Steve Schulze	N9UDO	New Lisbon
Raymond Matlosz	N9MLZ	Reedsburg
Dave Spearing	KB9CSW	Portage
Bill Klinkner	N9KXX	Sauk City
Ann Klinkner	N9PQL	Sauk City
Patrick Klinkner		Sauk City

Leonard Wagner CLUB SECRETARY

until noon at the Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. Walk-ins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.65. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (920) 235-0987, e-mail lemme@vbe.com, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

OSHKOSH, WI (R.A.W.) - (W5YI/VEC)

February 19, 2000. Final session by R.A.W. Sponsored by Radio Amateurs of Wisconsin (R.A.W.) Testing sessions at UW Oshkosh, College of Nursing Building, 845 Algoma Blvd., Room 211, Oshkosh, WI. Park free in lot 29 on side of building or in lot 25 behind the building. Registration start at 9 a.m. \$6.35 per test. Bring 2 forms of id etc. Walk-ins are welcome. Contact: Mark Miller, N9WT, (920) 231-1662 or Mike O'Conner, K9II (920) 231-7093.

EAU CLAIRE, WI

The Eau Claire ARC will hold exam sessions on the second Saturday in the months of January, April, and October, as well as on the date of their annual hamfest during the summer. For more info: Steve Blum, KA9OMY. (715) 839-6509.

SHEBOYGAN, WI

SATURDAYS, May 20, and September 16: 8:30 a.m. registration, 9 a.m. testing. TUESDAYS, March 21, July 18, and November 21; 6:30 p.m. registration, 7 p.m. testing.

All sessions will be held in the Red Cross building, 2023 Erie Avenue, in the main level classroom area. This testing site is handicapped/wheelchair accessible. Pre-registration is appreciated so we don't get caught short of forms and examinations, but walk-ins are welcome. Contact: Art Pahr, K9XJ, N8029 Willow Road, Plymouth, WI 53073-2929. (920) 876-2370. K9XJ e-mail: <k9xj@excel.net>

ONALASKA, WI (ARRL/VEC)

February 5, May 5, September 16, November 4. The Riverland Amateur Radio Club will hold test sessions at the Onalaska Public Library, 741 Oak Avenue South. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. Please bring two forms of identification and two copies of all original documents, CSCEs, license, etc. For more information contact: Roger Reader, KA9BKK, 526 13th Ave. N., Onalaska, WI 54650. (608) 783-0723.

MEDFORD, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Taylor County Area AREC. Registration starts 8:30 a.m., testing starts 9:00 a.m. Location: The conference room in the lower level of the Sheriff's annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Take Ogden St. west off of Hwy. 13 to the courthouse. Park in the lots on the east or south sides of the courthouse or on the street. PLEASE use the entrance on the south side of the courthouse and watch of the signs.

Walk-ins welcome. Contact: Tom Hrdina, N9GEN, 2373 Willow Ave., Medford, WI 54451. (715) 748-4054.

PEWAUKEE, WI (ARRL/VEC)

First Saturday on months school is in session. Exams held at Waukesha County Technical College Science Building. WCTC is on Highway JJ off Hwy 16 from the East I-94 and Hwy T from West I-94 just north of GE Medical Systems. Handicapped parking is at the rear of the building. Tests start at 9 a.m. and registration ends at 10 a.m. Contact: Al Johnson, AA7CS, (920) 568-0836; Roger Bradley, AA9OJ, (262) 691-3089 or SEWFARS Repeater club c/o Jam Lazachek, KF9GG (262) 650-0724.

HUDSON, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Sponsor: St. Croix Valley AR Testing Col. Time: Call for time and walk-in info, Contact: Gregory Miller (715) 386-9857 Location: St. Croix County Emergency, Government Center by jail, Carmichael Rd. lower level, Hudson, WI 54016. (Information tnx ARRL Web site)

FRIENDSHIP, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Sponsor: Adams County ARC. Location: Adams-Columbia electric Cooperative (Community Room), 410 E. Lake St., Friendship, WI 53934. Contact: Karl Simonson, KB9EQI, (608) 565-6533. kb9eqi@iname.com

HAMFEST EXAMS

Cedarburg WI - ORC Hamfest
Eau Claire WI - ECARC Hamfest
Green Bay WI - ARES Hamfest
Hayward WI - Hayward Hamfest
Kaukauna WI - Swapfest
Manitowoc WI - Lakeshore Hamfest
Oak Creek WI - SMARC Hamfest
Racine WI - Racine Hamfest
Rhineland WI - NWARC Swapfest
Rockford IL - RARC Hamfest
Rothschild WI - WVRA Hamfest
South Milwaukee, WI - SMARC Hamfest
Stevens Point, WI - CWRA
Swapfest Waukesha WI - KMRA Swapfest
Waukesha WI - Midwinter Swapfest
Dubuque IA - Hamfest

See the Swapfest column for additional information and contact persons.



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April 9, 2000
Mandt Community Center
400 Mandt Parkway • Stoughton, WI
Doors open at 8 a.m.
Sponsored by MARA/W9HSY
P. O. Box 8890 Madison, WI 53708-8890
Swapfest Information Line: (608) 245-8890

SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB SWAPFEST 00

July 8, 2000
(Held every July)
American Legion Park
Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI
(414) 762-3235 Extension: Ask for Verne
P. O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI 53172

SEWFARS SWAPFEST

HAM RADIOS • COMPUTERS • ELECTRONICS
AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS
SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2000
8:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
Setup Starts at 6:00 A.M.
For more information, call (414) 835-7035

LAKESHORE HAMFEST

AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST
Manitowoc County Expo
Intersection of Hwys 42-151 and I-43 on Cty Highway R
Saturday, May 13, 2000
For more information, call:
Red, N9GHE • (920) 84-3733
Dick, N9QFY • (920) 882-9284
ManCoRad Radio Club • P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI 54221-0204

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www.ns9rc.org (847) 291-4160 jaf@lwt.net

Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club W9EAU HAMFEST Saturday, June 10, 2000

For Information Contact:
Jim Staatz, KG9MV at 715-838-9108
P.O. Box 1867 Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867
kg9mv@ecol.net http://www.ecarc.org

Stay Tuned! **Racine Megacycle Club**
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Mail: PO Box 3 Racine, WI 53401
Phone: 262-562-8782
E-Mail: w9udu@w9udu.org
Contact us or keep checking our web site for details on upcoming events.

Ozaukee Radio Club 22ND ANNUAL RADIO AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST Saturday, May 6, 2000

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Circle B Recreation Center
Intersection of Highway 60 and County I
Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno,
5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222
Swapfest sponsored by the Ozaukee Radio Club
1702 Holly Lane, Grafton, WI 53024

Circus City Swapfest

Sponsored by The Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club
Saturday August 12, 2000 • 7 am - Noon
Sauk County Fairgrounds • Baraboo, WI

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\$5 - At Gate
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Steve Schulze, N9UDO (608)358-2313/358-4777
http://members.baraboo.com/sschulze/hamfest.htm
Bill Klinkner, N9KXX (608)643-8908/643-6453

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

AUCTION

February 22, 2000 • 7:00 p.m.
American Legion Post 53 • 634 Water Street
Eau Claire, WI

CONTACT: Steve Hart, KA9OMC 715-665-2374
E616 810th Ave. Knapp, WI 54749

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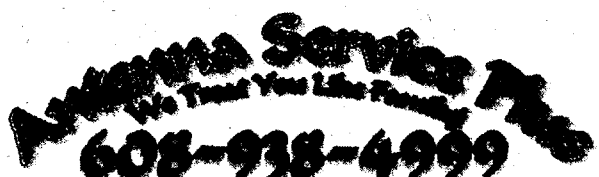
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